النساء المبشرات بال

WOMEN
WHO DESERVE TO GO TO





Mansoor Abul Hakim

DARUL-ISHAAT
Karachi-Pakistan.

WOMEN WHO DESERVE TO GO TO HELL

النِّسَاءُ المُبَشَّرَاتُ بِالنَّارِ

Mansoor Abul Hakim

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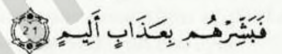
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WORDS OF ALLAH

بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ



Surely We have prepared for the disbelievers chains, and fetters, and a blazing fire. *(76:4)*



Give them the tidings of a painful chastisement. *(3:21)*

وَأَعْتَدْنَا لِمَن كَذَّبَ بِٱلسَّاعَةِ سَعِيرًا ﴿11﴾

And We have prepared for him who belies the Hour a blazing fire. *(25:11)*

وَبَشِّرِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴿3﴾

And give tidings of a painful chastisement to those who disbelieve. *(9:3)*

لَّيْسَ لَهُمْ طَعَامٌ إِلَّا مِن ضَرِيعٍ ﴿6﴾ لَّا يُسْمِنُ وَلَا يُغْنِى مِن جُوعٍ ﴿7﴾

They shall have no food but of bitter thorns, neither noarishing, nor satisfying hunger. *(88:6-7)*

THE PROPHET'S ﷺ SAYING

و رأيت النّــار فاذا اكثــر اهلها النســـــاء......

I looked into Hell and, behold, most of its denizens are women! (Bukhari, # 29)

بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمنِ الرَّحِيمِ

DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to every Muslim woman – a mother, daughter or wife. I hope this book will serve her as a guiding light in this difficult hour of trial and during the great signs of the Last Hour, that we have observed with our eyes.

Perchance we will overcome our negligence and we may regain our senses before we face the consequences of our evil in the Hereafter.

Author

Mansur Abdul Hakim Muhammad (Wakil)

Cairo

FOREWORD

"الحمد لله خالق كل شيء، سبحانه و تعالىٰ، نحمده و نستعينه و نستهديه، نشهد انه الا له الواحد الاحد الفرد الصمد، خلق النار و جعلها لمن عصاه، و خلق الجنة و جعلها لاهل طاعته، ارسل الرسل مبشرين و منذرين، و جعل خاتم الانبياء والرسل محمداً صلى الله عليه و سلم و كان امته خير الامم و اشهد ان لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له و اشهد ان إحمداً عبده و رسوله صلى الله عليه وسلم شهادة حق و صدق نسأل الله ان يكتبها لنا فى خزائن رحمته نجدها فى ميزان حسناتنا يوم لا ينفع مال ولا بنون الا عملاً صالحًا مقبولاً عنده سبحانه و تعالىٰ۔"

Some people keep asking about the denizens of Hell and the reason why women will go to Hell in large numbers. The Hadith that mentions this bears a significant meaning. Never does Allah let anyone fear in both the worlds. If anyone fears Allah in this world then Allah will keep him safe from punishment in the next world.

The Hadith about Hell is not hard on the man who is involved in anxieties and hardship in this world, for him there is hope in the Hereafter which is the real life.

We will examine through the light of the Book and *Sunnah* the Hell that a Believer fears, which kind of women deserve to go to Hell? What causes one to go to Hell?

We will look into the lies of women of previous *ummah* and of this *Ummah* who were liable to go to Hell. We can include all disobedient women in that bracket. Our aim, however, is only to give admonition, and that lesson should be drawn from this narration.

Perhaps we will wake up from our slumber of negligence and walk the path worthy of Paradise. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Women are more deserving of Hell, and when I peeped into Paradise, I saw mostly the poor."

We will learn from the following pages what the signs of the dwellers of Hell are. Disobedient women always cause mischief.

We pray to Allah for guidance and help. Surely, He is over all things Powerful. May Allah accept our effort and put it on the pan of good deeds on our scale on the Day of resurection to outweigh (the evil deeds). Aameen

و صلى الله عليه سيدنا محمد و اله و صحبه و سلم

Mansur Abdul Hakim Muhammad (Wakil)
Cairo

CHAPTER ONE

Mostly women were observed in Hell – why?

- What did Allah's Messenger see in Hell?
- Who will be the dwellers of Hell?
- Why are women more deserving of Hell?
- Some examples of women of Hell.
- How may women get deliverance from Hell?
- Some most excellent women.

بسم الله الرحمٰن الرحيم

MOSTLY WOMEN WERE OBSERVED IN HELL – WHY ?

We have no intention to accuse women when we say that they will be in a majority in Hell. These are not our words, but the words of Allah's Messenger ﷺ. He had seen Hell with his eyes and had observed that mostly women were fuel of the fire of Hell. He was asked, "O Messenger of Allah, why were more women (than men) observed in Hell?" He said, "It is that you curse people (often) and you are ungrateful to your husbands. Though he may be kind to you always yet if he happens to be unkind once, you tell him that you have never observed good in him." ❶

One day, Allah's Messenger ﷺ spoke words of advice and admonition to a group of women. He told them of those things that could take them to Hell. He also disclosed to them the things which may deliever them from Hell. He said to them, "O women! Give charity often. I have seen more of you in Hell. Surely, you are given to curse and show ingratitude to your husbands. I have not seen anyone more deficient in intelligence and more deficient in religion than you yet you can fool an intelligent and wise man." They asked, "How is our intelligence and religion deficient?" He said to them, "Is not the testimony of a woman half that of a man's testimony? This is woman's deficiency in intelligence. And is it not that while a woman menstruates, she does not offer *salah* or observe fasting? This is her deficiency in religion." ❷

Ingratitude to husband is not to recognise his kindness, but that is not the only reason. The main reason that is most detrimental to a woman is her habit of cursing other people and her refusal to be satisfied with her lot in life. Women are inclined often to have tall ambitions, to complain much and

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❶ Bukhari, Hadith # 29.
❷ Muslim as narrated by Abu Hurayrah ﷺ. Hakim, etc.

they have a blind sense of honour. They will take false oaths and they are a trial for men and are mischievous.[1]

If a man obeys his wife then that often turns out to be harmful to him because in that case he will be actually pursuing his lust though she is his wife. Rather, man must obey his mother as long as that does not result in disobedience to Allah.[2]

However, this does not imply that there are no wise women in the world with worthwhile advice to give. There certainly are women who can profer sound advice, but we are concerned here with those women who are disobedient to Allah and to His Messenger ﷺ and they are found in a very large number in this age. We cannot say that the woman of today who keeps up with fashion has worthwhile advice to profer, for, she is detrimental to her own self and her society. The man who does not mind if his wife aborns herself and goes out without veil is a cuckold. Such a man is his wife's obedient slave and, in fact, he obeys the devil whom his wife also obeys. Of course, there are people in our time who are deeply religious and who follow the teachings of the Prophet ﷺ to their best. In fact, we have already written a book about women who have been given glad tidings of Paradise - of whom we read in the Holy Qur'ān and in the Prophet's ﷺ saying.

MEN WHO WERE GIVEN TIDINGS OF HELL

The Qur'ān speaks of the people of Hell as it does of the people of Paradise. The Prophet ﷺ gave glad tidings of Paradise to his sahabah ؓ by name and to those who were present on certain occasions, like the Battle of Badr and the bay'ah ridwan[3] and both men and women are included in these glad tidings. The Qur'ān gives tidings of both Paradise and Hell specifically as well as in relation to deeds. However,

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1. Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "I leave behind no trial more harmful to men than women." (Tirmidhi) (Musnad Ahmad)
2. Men were ruined when they submitted in obedience to women. (Musnad Ahmad, Tabarani Kabir, Mustadrak Hakim.)
3. The pledge offered by the Sahabah at Hudybiyah in 6 AH to fight against the Quraysh should Uthman ؓ come to harm at their hands.

one who associates anything with Allah is forbidden entry into Paradise. Allah says:

وَبَشِّرِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴿٣﴾

And give tidings of a painful chastisement to those who disbelieve. (9:3)

And, He also says:

۞ ٱحْشُرُوا۟ ٱلَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا۟ وَأَزْوَٰجَهُمْ وَمَا كَانُوا۟ يَعْبُدُونَ ﴿٢٢﴾ مِن دُونِ
ٱللَّهِ فَٱهْدُوهُمْ إِلَىٰ صِرَٰطِ ٱلْجَحِيمِ ﴿٢٣﴾

(It shall be said:) Assemble those who did evil, and their companions, and what they used to worship besides Allah, then lead them to the path of Hell. *(37:22-23)*

There are more such verses in Allah's Book. The Ahadith also tell us of Paradise and Hell. Thus, a chief of the Makkan idolaters, Ubayy ibn Khalaf, brought a decayed bone and scratching it, he asked, "You claim that your Lord will resurrect the dead. Tell me, who will revive this (bone)" and he broke the bone into tiny pieces.

The Prophet ﷺ said, "Yes! Allah will give you death. Then he will give you life again and admit you to Hell."[1]

And this verse was revealed:

وَضَرَبَ لَنَا مَثَلًا وَنَسِىَ خَلْقَهُۥ ۖ قَالَ مَن يُحْىِ ٱلْعِظَٰمَ وَهِىَ
رَمِيمٌ ﴿٧٨﴾ قُلْ يُحْيِيهَا ٱلَّذِىٓ أَنشَأَهَآ أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ ۖ وَهُوَ بِكُلِّ
خَلْقٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٧٩﴾

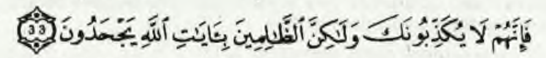
And he strikes for Us a similitude and forgets his own creation. He says, "Who shall revive the bones when they are decayed rotten?" Say, "He shall revive them Who

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[1] Hakim, Bayhaqi; Ibn Kathir has stated in his Tafsir that Aas ibn Wa'il picked up a bone and asked the question. Ibn Kathir also said on the authority of Mujahid and Ikrimah that this verse was revealed concering Ubayy ibn Khalaf.

originated them the first time. And He is the Knower of every creation." *(36:78-79)*

These people who were given tidings of Hell were hard-hearted and obstinate. They were deprived of the inner eye and they disbelieved only out ot their mulish 'no give-in' attitude. They followed in the footstep of the devil and rejected the call of the Prophets عليهم السلام and presisted on the path of their forefathers which suited them. Take the example of Abu Jahl. He was a chief of the Makkan idolaters. He did not inwardly deny the existence of the Creator, but he could not tolerate the Prophet ﷺ who was of the Banu Hashim. He wanted a Prophet from another tribe. He would say, "We do not reject you but we reject your message." The verse was revealed:



...they belie not you, but the evildoers in fact deny the revelation of Allah. *(6:33)*

One day, Abu Jahl said to his henchmen, "Indeed Muhammad is true. He has never spoken a lie. But if the offspring of Qusay take away everything from hosting the pilgrims to the nadwah (the counselling) and now the prophethood then what remains for the Quraysh?" This was how they disbelieved, but today people simply reject the existence of God and this kind of disbelief is more serious. However, both kinds are fuel for fire.

WHAT DID THE PROPHET ﷺ SEE IN HELL

In the nine books of Ahadith, there are about one thousand nine hundred and forty Ahadith about Hell. They describe Hell, some of its dwellers and the reasons why they are going there. Each of them inspires fear in the heart of a Believer whose hair will stand on end.

The Prophet ﷺ found that most of its dwellers are women. He said to an assembly of women, "Accustom yourselves to give charity even if you have to give your jewellery because you outnumber men in Hell. You curse too much and show

ingratitude to your husband. And I have not seen anyone as deficient in religion and in intelligence as women yet they gain an upparhand over men. The testimony of two women is equal to a man's testimony, and every woman experiences a certain period of time - as Allah wills - during which she does not prostrate before Allah."[1]

Sayyidina Ibn Abbas ؓ reported that during a solar eclipse, the Prophet ﷺ offered *salah* in which he stood for a long time - as much as it takes to recite al-Baqarah. The ruku' (bowing posture) was also lengthy and when he arose from it he again stood long but this was shorter than the first standing. He bowed again in ruku' but it was a shorter ruku' than the first. Then he prostrated and stood up a standing shorter than the former standing, and went into ruku' for a long bowing which was shorter than the first bowing. Then he prostrated and when he had finished the *salah*, the sun was visible. He said, "The sun and moon are Allah's signs. They are not eclipsed because of anybody's birth or death. When you see it, remember Allah." The sahabah ؓ submitted. "Of Messenger of Allah! We saw you take something in your hand while you were in the standing posture. Then you moved back. (Why did you do that?)." He said, "I had seen Paradise and tried to pick a bunch of grapes (from there). If I had taken it then you would have eaten from it tell the end of the world. And I saw Hell and I have never seen a more dreadful sight. I saw mostly women among the inhabitants of Hell." The sahabah ؓ asked, "Of Messenger of Allah, why is that so?" He said, "They are ungrateful." They asked, "They are so with their husband. They do not recognise kindness and favour. If you are kind to a woman for a period of time and she faces an unpleasantness with you any time then she says, 'I have never seen you display kindness.'[2]

The Prophet ﷺ did not see this in a dream. Rather, he observed it with his eyes. However, he was ra'uf and rahim

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[1] Mustadrak Hakim

[2] The Hadith in Bukhari and Muslim tells us that he said to women: Give charity often because most of you are fuel for Hell-fire. You complain often and are unthankful to your husband.

('full of pity' and 'compassionate) - and Allah also describes him with these attributes[1] - so, this situation was painful to him. He sought to rectify the situation by advising women to give charity often. Charity pacifies Divine wrath. There is a Hadith in *Bukhari* that he emerged form his home on an Eid day. He offered the two raka'at *salah* of Eid - he did not offer any other *salah* that day besides that before or after (apart from the prescribed). Then he addressed the women and commanded them to give charity. They responded prompty by offering their jewellery.

The Prophet ﷺ desired that somehow the women should be saved from Hell. *Sadaqah* (charity) is evidence, a means to salvation and it clears Allah's displeasure with men. Hence, if some human beings were likely to go to Hell, they could avert that possbility by giving charity liberally. This call of the Prophet ﷺ is directed to every woman of every age and every place.

[1] 9: 128 (surah Tawbah)

SOME KINDS OF WOMEN WHO WILL GO TO HELL

1. *THE GRUMBLER*

The Hadith refers to the woman who always grumbles. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Of women, give charity often even if you have to give your jewllery because you form a larger number in Hell. You curse often and complain against your husband."❶

Thus, the woman who complains against her husband every now and then is one of Hell. We find an example of a woman from the books of history and *sirah* (biography of the Prophets) who was given to complain. She was the wife of Sayyidina Isma'il son of Prophet Ibrahim ﷺ. Sayyidina Isma'il ﷺ learnt eloquent Arabic from the tribe Jurhum and married one of their women, Umarah bint Sa'd ibn Usamah ibn Akil Amalqi. His mother, Sayyidah Hajarah عليها السلام had died. One day, Sayyidina Ibrahim ﷺ came to meet his son but he was not at home. He met his wife who did not know him. He asked her how they fared and she let off a spate of complaints about their low standard of living. She did not praise Allah concerning their standard of living. So, he said, "When your husband comes home, convey to him my salaam and ask him to change the threshold of his home's door." She thought that the old man predicted better conditions for her. When her husband arrived home, he asked her if anybody had come to see him and she told him that an old man had come and she conveyed to him his message.

Allah's Prophet ﷺ, Sayyidina Isma'il said, "He was my father. He has instructed me to divorce you. So you better go to your parent's home." He then married another woman. She was of the same tribe and her name was Sayyidah bint Madad ibn Amr Jurhami. She was a very grateful woman who praised Allah often. Once again Sayyidina Ibrahim ﷺ came to meet his son but did not find him home. He asked his wife about him and she informed him that her husband had gone some

❶ Mustadrak Hakim.

where to earn a livelihood for them. He asked her about their wellbeing. She said, "Praise belongs to Allah. We are well and contended." He asked her about their sustenance and she said, "Meat". He asked her what they had to drink. She said, "Water." Sayyidina Ibrahim ﷺ said, "May Allah bless your meat and water for you! When your husband returns home, convey to him my salaam and advise him to retain the threshold of his home's door."

Sayyidina Isma'il ﷺ returned home and asked his wife if anyone had come home for him. She said, "A beautiful faced old man had come. He asked about you and our living. When I told him about it, he said that I should convey his greetings to you and advise you to retain the threshold of our door." He disclosed to her that the man was his father and she was the threshold of the door that the had advised him to retain. Allah, the Exalted, blessed them with twelve noble sons.[1]

There have always been grumbling women. They do not express gratitude to their Lord but complain of poverty and guarrel with their husband whose life they turn into Hell. Men should divorce such women.

2. *THE WOMAN WHO ADORNS HERSELF*

In the beginning of the twentieth century, a movement for the freedom of women was launched with the basic objective of driving women towards aberrant ways. This was patronised by Jews and Christians who made known that their ambition was to lead astray the aliens who were very devoted to their religion so that they keep away from their religion and feel shy to describe its salient features. They boasted that they had converted many to athiesm.

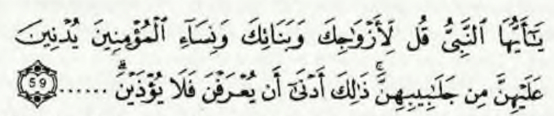
Anna Mieljan proposed that Islam could be wiped out - we seek refuge in Allah from such thought - in a short time by admitting Muslim girls to missionary schools within Muslim countries. She disclosed that the missionary schools were primarily opened with this end in mind. Muslim

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[1] 'Stories of the Prophets, Ibn Kathir - English translation P. 160. Darul Isha'at, Karachi.

women could be moulded in such a way that they do not distinguish between right and wrong and between modesty and shame.❶

Qasim Amin and his henchmen have also played a very effective role in misguiding women. He had written a book, 'The Modern Woman,' in 1900 and by the time he died in 1901 his efforts had achieved considerable response. Two women - Hadi Sha'radi and Sazanbaradi - demontrated trampling of their veil under their feet in 1923 before the delegates of an international women's conference in Rome. The war against the veil had crossed the boundaries of Islamic countries like Turkey and Iran where the cruel Kamal Ataturk and Raza Shah Pehlavi compelled the Turk and Iranian women to cast off the veil. Turkey was once the centre of the caliphate, but now it houses certain places where women are displayed like merchandise. Is this the meaning of freedom of women? Certainly, all religions have prescribed the veil for women throughout ages and the Prophet ﷺ had also received the command to enforce the veil on all Muslim women. In the veil lies all good. We read in the Qur'ān:



O Prophet! Tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the Believers to draw their outer garments close round them (when they go out on purpose). That would be more likely that they may be recognised and not annoyed. *(33:59)*

Helen Stanbery has aptly described the plight of the Western society. When she was asked about the Egyptian women whom she had observed, she said, "The Muslim society is a perfect and sound society. It is natural that we adopt its customs and etiquettes that restrict young people within a reasonable limit. Let us return to the times of the veil. It is much better than the present shameless indecency that abounds in Europe and America. Avoid the intermingling of

❶ Anna Mieljan is a Christian missionary.

sexes. We have endured it much in America which society is immensely immodest."

Salamat Musa has also spoken about immodesty. He said, "One of the tokens of progress is that men and women must be well-acquainted with western mode of dance and must have experienced it."

Allah says in the Qur'ān:

قُل لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَغُضُّوا مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِمْ وَيَحْفَظُوا فُرُوجَهُمْ ذَٰلِكَ أَزْكَىٰ لَهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾ وَقُل لِّلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَغْضُضْنَ مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا

Say to the believing men that they lower their gaze and guard their private parts. That is purer for them. Surely Allah is Aware of what they do. And say to the believing women that they lower their gaze and guard their private parts and display not their adornment except what appears thereof. *(24:30-31)*

If a woman shuns the veil to show off her adornment (to strangers) than that deprives her of Paradise. The Prophet ﷺ said, "There are two kinds of the dwellers of Hell whom I have not seen. Those who will hold whips like the tails of oxen with which they will strike the people. And the women who will wear garments yet be nude, they will be inclined and they will seduce and their heads will be like the humps of red camels. They will not enter Paradise nor feel its wind though it is felt at very long distances."[1]

THE FIRST KIND

These people who will beat others with their whips represent the rulers and their forces.

THE SECOND KIND

They are women who will uncover some portions of their

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[1] Muslim, narrated by Abu Hurayrah.

bodies and cover others according to their sensual desires. This is تبرّج (display of beauty, as stated in the Qur'ān).

The foregoing Hadith says that such women will not enter Paradise - nay, not even smell its fragrance. Today, they move about without the veil and uncovered head and on top of it claim that they possess modesty and are regular in observing fasts and *salah* and recital of the Qur'ān. But they neglect the hijab; whole body including the head must be covered - the face and hands excepted.[1]

This kind of woman lays claim to piety though she neglects the veil. We read in the foregoing Hadith that neglect of the veil efaces the advantage of pious deeds like fasting, prayer, Hajj, Umrah, *zikr* and others. In fact, the guardian of a woman who does not cover her body is also a flesh-pedlar who will not be admitted to Paradise on whose gates will be inscribed, "Cuckolds are disallowed entry." A cuckold is one who does not insist on modesty of his wife. What can be more immodest for a man than to let his wife move about unveiled? The Prophet ﷺ said, "My *ummah* will enter Paradise - all of them, save those who reject." Someone asked, "O Messenger of Allah! Who rejects?" he said, "He who obeys me will enter Paradise but he who disobeys me has rejected."[2]

3. *THE WOMAN WHO APES MEN, TATTOOS, CUTS HAIR SHORT AND ALTERS NATURE*

The Ahadith explicitly disallow women to behave as men in their gait, appearance and dress, and men to adopt effiminate characteristics. Such men and women are accursed. This means that they are deprived of Allah's mercy and of Paradise. The Prophet ﷺ has said, "Allah has cursed the women who imitate men and the men who imitate women."[3]

In these times, there are many women who resemble men in dress as also men who take up resemblance to women in walk, speech and character. There is no derth of men who

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[1] But, the ulama hold that the face should be veiled in times of mischief. (Muhammad Anas).
[2] Bukhari as narrated by Abu Hurayrah ﷺ.
[3] Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood, Ibn Majah.

imitate women in dress, habits and appearance. Of the women who are liable to be cursed is one who refuses her husband's advances for a sexual intercourse, saying that she is experiencing menses. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Allah has cursed the mughas*salah* whose husband calls her but she pleads that she has menses."[1] The mughas*salah* is a woman who pleads that she is menstruating.

Allah has also cursed the woman who tattoos and who asks for it. He has also cursed the woman who plucks hairs from her eye brows and face and who asks for it to make herself look beautiful. He has also cursed the woman who makes spaces between her teeth for beauty and who changes what Allah has created.[2]

A word سالقة is used in Hadith. It means, 'a woman who shrieks at the time of distress.' Allah has cursed the woman who beats her face when a calamity descends on her and tears her garment at the collar, and the woman who utters blasphemy and wails.

The Prophet ﷺ said, "Allah has cursed the woman who scratches her face, tears her garment at the collar, wails and utters words of pre-Islamic days."[3]

The cursed women include those who are dressed yet nude. Allah's Messenger ﷺ has commanded that such women must be cursed.

Sayyidina Ibn Umar ؓ narrated that Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "In the last days, there will be women who will ride like men. They will alight at the door of the mosque, though dressed but nude. Their heads will be like the hump red camels. Curse such women, for, they are accursed. If there was an *ummah* after you, then these women would have served them just as the women of the *ummah* before you serve you."

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[1] Abdur Razzaq (da'f ul-jami' – 4689)

[2] Bukhari # 4886, Muslim # 2125-120, Abu Dawud # 4169, Ibn Majah # 1989, Darami # 2647, Musnad Ahmad, 1:415.

[3] Ibn Majah, Tabarani Kabir. The wailing woman is one who describes the good qualities of the dead raising her voice in competition with others. The Prophet ﷺ said, "If the wailing – woman does not repent before she dies then she will be made to stand on the Day of Resurrection between Paradise and Hell. Her dress will be of pitch and the fire will cover her face." Tabarani Kabir.

Those women are very common in current times. They visit the mosques where there are shrines of Sayyidina Husayn ﷺ and Sayyidah Zaynab رضى الله عنها - for example. They stand there in such a manner that they are semi-nude. They are adorned and make supplication to other than Allah. This is sheer disbelief and polytheism. لاحول ولا قوة الا بالله - there is no power and no might save with Allah.

4. *WOMEN WHO KILL ANIMALS & BIRDS*

There are women who are careless in looking after pets. They neither feed them nor allow them to look for their food themselves.

The Prophet ﷺ has described a women who matched this description.

The Prophet ﷺ said, "A woman was sent to Hell because of a cat. She had bound a cat and she did not feed her nor unbound her that she might fetch her own food-of the insects (etc). As a result the cat died."[1]

Thus, it is the responsibility of the woman who keeps pets to look after them. They are creatures about whom she will be asked. If one has to keep pets then one must ensure that they are fed regularly lest they come to harm. If that cannot be done then the pets may be set free to mend for themselves.

5. *POLYTHEIST AND HYPOCRITE WOMAN*

Polytheism is a grave sin. It causes the polytheist to go to Hell forever. Allah has said that He will never forgive polytheism. The Prophet ﷺ said, "If anyone dies while he had been associating with Allah then he will go to Hell. The narrator of the Hadith Sayyidina Ibn Mas'ud ﷺ said, "I say that if anyone dies while he does not associate anything with Allah then he will go to Paradise."[2]

When Allah's Messenger ﷺ was asked about major sins, he mentioned four grave sins. One of these was ascribing partners to Allah. He said, "They are: to associate anything

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[1] Bukhari, Ahmed
[2] Bukhari.

with Allah, to disobey parents, to kill someone and to give false testimoney."[1]

Hypocrisy is also like polytheism. Both the hypocrite and the polytheist will be consigned to the depth of Hell. There are three major signs of hypocrisy. They are: to lie when speaking, to misappropriate a trust and to breach a promise. The word 'trust' has a wide meaning and it could be wealth or secret which he may misappropriate or disclose. The Prophet ﷺ mentioned these three signs.[2]

Similarly, to forge a lie against Allah's Messenger ﷺ is also instrumental in consigning the liar to Hell.

The Prophet ﷺ said, "The biggest lie is that a person is ascribed to someone other than his own father, or he sees what his eyes have not seen, or he ascribes to me that which I have not said."[3]

He also said, "If anyone knowingly forges a lie against me then he must look for a place for him in Hell."

او كما قال عليه الصلوة والسلام

Or, as the Prophet ﷺ said.

It is a great lie to relate a person to someone other than his father as ignorant people do now-a-days. For instance, when anyone cannot arrange for sustenance for his chilren then he gets adopted parents for them, or if a man or woman knows that they cannot have their own childern then they adopt someone else's children. They are then described as their own children. Islam has forbidden this practice. One who does that will be eligible for Hell because he contrarenes the command of Allah and his Messenger ﷺ. But, if anyone repents his mistake and makes amends then the warning does not apply to him.

6. *INDECENT WOMAN*

The Qur'ān has placed the woman who commits adultery and who associates with Allah in the same category as those with whom a man cannot marry. Allah, the Majestic, says:

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[1] Bukhari.
[2] Bukhari.
[3] Bukhari.

ٱلزَّانِى لَا يَنكِحُ إِلَّا زَانِيَةً أَوْ مُشْرِكَةً وَٱلزَّانِيَةُ لَا يَنكِحُهَآ إِلَّا زَانٍ أَوْ مُشْرِكٌ ۚ وَحُرِّمَ ذَٰلِكَ عَلَى ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٣﴾

The adulter weds not but an adultaress or an associatoress, and the adultress – none weds her but an adulterer or an associator; and that is forbidden to the believers. *(24:3)*

The Prophet ﷺ has also indicated that an adulterer does not remain a believer while he is commiting adultery. He thus said that this deed is alien to Believers. He said, "An adulterer is not a believer while he commits adultery and a theif is not a believer when he steals. And an alcoholic is not a believer when he consumes wine. And a plunderer is not a believer when he plunders and people look at him with raised eyes."[1]

Allah, the Exalted has said:

وَٱلَّذِينَ لَا يَدْعُونَ مَعَ ٱللَّهِ إِلَٰهًا ءَاخَرَ وَلَا يَقْتُلُونَ ٱلنَّفْسَ ٱلَّتِى حَرَّمَ ٱللَّهُ إِلَّا بِٱلْحَقِّ وَلَا يَزْنُونَ ۚ وَمَن يَفْعَلْ ذَٰلِكَ يَلْقَ أَثَامًا ﴿٦٨﴾ يُضَٰعَفْ لَهُ ٱلْعَذَابُ يَوْمَ ٱلْقِيَٰمَةِ وَيَخْلُدْ فِيهِۦ مُهَانًا ﴿٦٩﴾ إِلَّا مَن تَابَ وَءَامَنَ وَعَمِلَ عَمَلًا صَٰلِحًا

And those who call not upon another god with Allah, and slay not the soul that Allah has forbidden, except by right, nor commit adultery; and he who does this shall meet the requital of sin – the chastisement shall be doubled for him on the Day of Resurrection, and he shall abide therein humiliated – except him who repents, and believes, and does righteous deeds... *(25:68-70)*

Both the immoral man and woman are liable to go to Hell. However, if they repent and do righteous deeds – or have been punished in the world as prescribed by Shari'ah – then this warning does not apply to them.

During the mi'raj, the Prophet ﷺ saw some people who had before them excellent and savoury meat and also, to a side,

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[1] Bukhari, Muslim, Abu Dawud, Musnad Ahmad,

bad-smelling meat. He asked Jibril ﷺ about them. He informed the Prophet ﷺ. "They are those who ignore the women whom Allah has made lawful for them only to go to the women whom Allah has forbidden for them. The Prophet ﷺ also asked about the women who were suspended by their breasts. So, Jibril ﷺ informed him that these women brought to men those who were not their (the men's) offspring. (They were sined by someone else.)

These indecent people will be punished in the Hereafter severely. However, those who repent from their sins and turn to the forgiving and Merciful Lord are safe from these meanings.

7. *ARROGANT WOMAN*

Whether a man is arrogant or a woman, both are equally specimens of Hell. Arrogance is disliked by Allah and His Messenger ﷺ, and people also hate it. An arrogant person imagines that he is superior to everyone. The Prophet ﷺ has said warning his *ummah*, "If anyone has pride even as much as a grain of mustard seed then Allah will fling him in Hell face down."[1]

The Prophet ﷺ also said, "He will not enter Paradise who has so much as a grain of pride in him."[2]

Arrogance is found in words, deeds and character. It is a despised trait though it might be an atom's worth. Why should a person be arrogant? He is created from a drop of semen and carries impurities in his whole body. We know from Ahadith that a proud person will not enter Paradise. The proud will be admitted to Hell. They may be men or women.

8. *THE QUARRELSOME WOMAN*

What man utters with his tongue is either advantageous to him and to others or wicked and accountable. Except for remembrance of Allah, every kind of excesive speech is a waste of time and harmful. Allah's Messenger ﷺ explained it in one

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[1] Daraqutni,
[2] Daraqutni

of his sayings. He said, "He who talks much commits many mistakes. And, if he makes many mistakes then he will commit many sins. And, he who has many sins against him is more worthy of Hell."[1]

Sometimes it is good to talk but silence is safe. However, remembrance of Allah and defence of truth is exempted (from this axiom). The Prophet ﷺ said about it, "May Allah have mercy on the person who when he speaks derives benefit or observes silence against evil talk and becomes secure."[2]

It happens that a negligent person ridicules a religious practice or is rude to someone because of which he deserves to go to Hell. The Prophet ﷺ said about this thing, "Sometimes one utters unintentionally what pleases Allah Who exalts him in rank because of that. (In the same way,) he utters, in a moment of negligence, what displeases Allah because of which he goes to Hell."[3]

There is an ancient saying:

لسانك حصانك ان صنته صانك

Your tongue is your horse. If you preserve it, it will preserve you.

9. *DISOBEDIENT WIFE*

If a woman obeys her husband, offers *salah* five times a day, keeps fast in Ramadan, observes what Allah has enjoined and forbidden then by Allah's will she will enter Paradise.

On the other hand, she who is disobedient to her husband will enter Hell even if she is careful about *salah*, fasting and other duties to Allah. A woman's entry into Paradise is dependent on her husband's pleasure. The Prophet ﷺ said:

ايّما امرة ماتت وزوجها عنها راض دخلت الجنة

Whichever woman dies having her husband pleased with her will enter Paradise.[4]

[1] Tabarani.
[2] Ibn Mubarik, Bayhaqi.
[3] Bukhari # 6477, Muslim 50-2988, Tirmidhi # 23319, Ibn Majah # 3969, Muwatta Imam Maalik # 5, Musnad Ahmad, 3/469.
[4] Trmidhi # 1161, Ibn Majah # 1854.

However, obedience to a husband is conditional to obedience to Allah. If it involves disobedience to Allah then it is not allowed to obey the husband, for, it is forbidden to obey a creature at the cost of disobedience to Allah. Thus, if a husband asks his wife to cast away her veil, she should not obey him because he asks her to disobey Allah and unless he repents he will remain in the purview of a cuckold. As long as he commands what is reputable, it is wajib to obey him. Allah says:

فَإِنْ أَطَعْنَكُمْ فَلَا تَبْغُوا عَلَيْهِنَّ سَبِيلًا ...... (34)

Then if they obey you, seek not any way against them. *(4:34)*

The Prophet ﷺ said:

لو كنت أمر احدًا ان يسجد لاحد لامرت المرأة ان تسجد لزوجها .

If I were to order anyone that he should prostrate himself before anyone, I would order the woman that she should prostrate herself before her husband.[1]

The Prophet ﷺ also said:

اذا دعا الرجل امرأته الى فراشه فأبت ان يجيء فبات غضبان عليها، لعنتها الملائكة حتى تصبح

When the man invites his wife to his bed, but she refuses to come and he spends the night angry, the angels curse her till it is morning.[2]

He also said:

لا يحل للمرأة ان تصوم و زوجها شاهد الا باذنه

It is not allowed to a woman to keep a fast while her husband is there without his permission.[3]

This applies to supeerogatory fasts. However, she must keep the obligatory fast whether her husband is at home or not.

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[1] Trimdhi # 1159

[2] Bukhari # 3237, Muslim # 1272/1436, Abu Dawud # 2141, Darami # 2228, Ahmad 2/439.

[3] Bukhari # 5195, Muslim # 84/1026, Abu Dawud # 2458, Tirmidhi # 782, Ibn Majah # 1761, Darami # 1720, Ahmad 2/444.

HOW MAY A WOMAN KEEP AWAY FROM HELL

Allah's Messenger ﷺ said:

يا معشر النساء تصدقن فانى رأيتكن اكثر اهل النار

O company of women! Give charity often because I saw women in a mojority in Hell.

When the Prophet ﷺ went on mi'raj, he saw Paradise and Hell. He saw more women in Hell, so he ordered them to give charity to save themselves from Hell. Charity is a means of purity from sin and deliverance from Allah's punishment.

Allah has said:

خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَٰلِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِم بِهَا

Take alms out of their riches that y ou may cleanse them.

(9:103)

Sadaqah keeps Allah's punishment away. If a woman is poor and cannot give charity then she may make *zikr* and istighfar often. (That is, remember Allah and seek forgiveness.)

A woman must not be the devil's help. She must devote herself to obey Allah and refrain from pursuing her lustful desires. According to traditions, certain things will transpire before the Last Hour. Knowledge will be withdrawn, ignorance will preval, adultery will be committed often, wine will be consumed commonly and there will be more women and fewer men.

Sayyidina Anas ibn Maalik ؓ narrated: I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ say - and no one will narrate this Hadith to you after me — "Withdrawal of knowledge, prevelance of ignorance, predominance of adultery, prepondernace of wine - drinking, scarcity of men and a large number of women so that there will be one man to look after fifty women — are signs of the Last Hour."[1]

Withdrawal of knowledge will be through death of the *Ulama* (scholars). Ignorance will be rampant through

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[1] Bukhari # 80, Muslim # 9/2671, Abu Dawud # 60, Tirmidhi # 2205, Nasa'I # 4456, Ibn Majah # 4045, Darami # 476, Ahmad 3/176.

emergence of false claimants to knowledge who will issue ruling on the basis of their personal whims. Adultery will spread and wine will be consumed freely. This will invite Allah's wrath and cause ruin. Sayyidah Ayshah رضى الله عنها asked Allah's Messenger ﷺ, "Will we be destroyed despite the presence of pious people among us?" He said, "Yes, when wickedness is abundant."[1] This refers to - abundance of adultery.

As for fifty women depending on one man, it does not mean that one man will marry fifty women.

SOME EXCELLENT WOMEN

How many women there are in the world who are perfect! We cannot count them. However, the Prophet ﷺ - giver of true information - has named them.

خير نساء العالمين اربعة: مريم بنت عمران و آسية امرأة فرعون و خديجة بنت خويلد و فاطمة بنت محمد (صلى الله عليه و سلم)۔

The best women of the world are four: Maryam bint Imran, Aasiyah wife of Fir'awn, Khadijah bint Khuwaylid and Fatimah bint Muhasmmad.[2]

He also said:

كمل من الراجل كثير و لم يكمل من النساء الا مريم بنت عمران و آسية امرأة فرعون و فضل عائشة على النساء كفضل الثريد على سائر الطعام۔

There have been perfect men in large numbers. But among women none attained perfection except Maryam bint Imran and Aasiyah wife of Fir'awn, and Ayshah's excellence over women is like the excellence of tharid over other kinds of food.[3]

Men's perfection is because of various reasons: intelligence, religion, etc. But, it is least found in women. At most, four women have this perfection. According to one Hadith they are the chief of all women. The Prophet ﷺ said:

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[1] Bukhari # 3346, Muslim # 2/288.
[2] Tirmidhi, Musnad Ahmad, Ibn Asakir.
[3] Bukhari # 3411, Muslim # 70/2431, Tirmidhi # 1834, Ibn Majah # 3280, Ahmad 4/394.

سيدة نساء اهل الجنة بعد مريم و فاطمة و خديجة وامرأة فرعون

The chief of women of Paradise after Maryam are Fatimah, Khadijah and the wife of Fir'awn. Aasiyah.

[illegible]

[illegible] of women of Paradise [illegible] Maryam [illegible] and the wife of Fir'awn, Aasiyah.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] WOMEN

[illegible]

CHAPTER TWO

HELL AND ITS IMMATES

- Nature of Hell-fire
- Gates of Hell
- Chains & Fetters of Hell
- Food of Hell
- Kinds of punishment in Hell
- Keepers of Hell

NATURE OF HELL-FIRE

Allah's punishment is for every stubborn disbeliever and polytheist and violator of Allah's commands and every sinner. The fire is wild and it pierces hearts and turns children into old men.

Allah kindled the fire in Hell. It burned for a thousand years till it turned white. Again it was kindled and it burned for a thousand years till it became red. It was kindled the third time and allowed to burn for a thousand years till it became black. Its fierceness cannot be mitigated and its heat is so severe that so much on opening as a needle's head would destroy all creation on earth. In fact, if the keepers of Hell were to be seen then all who see them will perish.

O you weak man! Ponder a while! If the sun's heat becomes a little severe, you are on the point of death. You perspire profusely and breathe heavily. Then, what do you think of the severity of the fire of Hell? Will you be able to tolerate it? Allah's Messenger ﷺ said about it:

نار كم هذه جزء من سبعين جزء من نار جهنم و لولا انها اطفئت بالماء مرتين ما كان لاحد فيها منفعة۔

This fire of yours is one-seventieth part of the fire of Hell. If it was not extinguished with water twice, there would not have been benefit for anyone in it.[1]

He also said, "The fire kindled by man is one-seventieth part of Hell-fire." Someone said, "Of Messenger of Allah, By Allah, the fire of the world would be enough." He said, "The fire of Hell is above the fire of the world by sixty-nine parts and each of its portoin has that much heat."[2]

Someone asked Allah's Messenger ﷺ whether the fire of Hell had eyes. He asked, "Have you not heard these words of Allah:

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1. Ibn Majah # 4318.
2. Bukhari 3265, Muslim 30/2843, Tirmidhi 2589.

إِذَا رَأَتْهُم مِّن مَّكَانٍ بَعِيدٍ سَمِعُوا لَهَا تَغَيُّظًا وَزَفِيرًا ﴿١٢﴾

When it sees them from a far place, they shall fear its raging and roaring. *(25:12)*

A neck will protrude from Hell-fire, having two eyes with which it will see. It will have a tongue with which it will speak and say, "I have been appointed for every such person who ascribes partner with Allah..." (to the end)

Allah has said:

إِنَّا أَعْتَدْنَا لِلظَّالِمِينَ نَارًا أَحَاطَ بِهِمْ سُرَادِقُهَا

Surely We have prepared for the evildoers a fire, (the canopy of) its pavilion will encompass them. *(18:29)*

Sayyidina Abdullah ibn Abbas ﷺ asked Mujahid رحمة الله عليه, "Do you know how large hell is?" Mujahid said, "No!" Ibn Abbas ﷺ said, "By Allah, you cannot fathom. The distance between the ear-lobe of an inmate of Hell and his shoulder will be a distance of seventy years. Pus and blood will flow from that as though streams."

Mujahid asked whether there were rivers in Hell and Sayyidina Ibn Abbas ﷺ said, "No, there are no rivers but valleys. Do you know the extant of the bridge of Hell?" Mujahid رحمة الله عليه said, "No." He said, "Sayyidah Ayshah رضى الله عنها had asked Allah's Messenger ﷺ about:

وَالْأَرْضُ جَمِيعًا قَبْضَتُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

And the whole earth will be His handful on the Day of Resurrection *(39:67)*

she asked, 'Where will the people be on that day?' He said, 'On top of the bridge.'[1]

FETTERS AND IRON RODS OF HELL

Allah has said:

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[1] Tirmidhi # 3241

وَلَهُم مَّقَـٰمِعُ مِنْ حَدِيدٍ ﴿٢١﴾

And for them shall be maces of iron. (22:21)

إِذِ ٱلْأَغْلَـٰلُ فِىٓ أَعْنَـٰقِهِمْ وَٱلسَّلَـٰسِلُ يُسْحَبُونَ ﴿٧١﴾ فِى ٱلْحَمِيمِ

When the fetters are on their necks and the chains, they are dragged, into the boiling water. *(40:71-72)*

And He also said:

ثُمَّ فِى سِلْسِلَةٍ ذَرْعُهَا سَبْعُونَ ذِرَاعًا ... ﴿٣٢﴾

in a chain of seventy cubits length. *(69:32)*

إِنَّ لَدَيْنَآ أَنكَالًا وَجَحِيمًا ﴿١٢﴾

Surely with Us are heavy fetters, and a raging fire. *(78:12)*

These things are for the inmates. The Prophet ﷺ described them. A bowl was lying before him. He pointed out to it. "If a stone like it is released from the heaven, it will reach earth before night though the distance from earth to heaven is five hundred years. But if it is released from the top of the chian of Hell then it will take forty years to reach its bottom."[1]

Sayyidina Ubayy ibn Ka'b ؓ said, "Each ring of this fetter is like all the irons of the world."[2]

VALLEYS, MOUNTAINS, RIVERS & DRINKS OF HELL

There is a valley in Hell known as Wail. The Prophet ﷺ said that the disbelievers will be put into it. It will take them forty years to reach its bottom.[3]

The Prophet ﷺ said:

There is a mountain in Hell, Sa'ud. It is of fire. A disbeliever will climb over it for seventy years. Then he will be thrown down.[4]

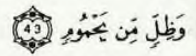
Some say that Wail is a pond in Hell where the pus of the

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[1] Tirmidhi.
[2] Qurtubi.
[3] Qurtubi as narated by Ibn Mubarak.
[4] Tirmidhi as narrated by Abu Sa'eed Khudri.

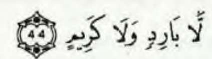
inmates accumulates. Some others say that it is one of the doors of Hell.

The Qur'ān says:



And the shade of dark smoke. (56:43)

Some scholars say that يحموم is a mountain in Hell in whose shade the inmates will try to get a nap. The smoke of Hell-fire is very hot. It is described in the words:

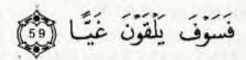


Neither cool nor pleasant. *(56:44)*

As for موبقًا (place of destruction), Imam Mujahid said that it is a valley in Hell while Ikrimah said that it is a stream of fire in Hell at whose banks are snakes like black mules. When the snakes attack them, the inmates will try to save themselves by jumping into the fire.

Sayyidina Anas ﷺ said that مويت is a valley full of blood and pus.

One of the rivers of Hell is named غنى . Sayyidah Ayshah رضى الله عنها was asked about the verse



So they shall soon encounter perdition. *(19:59)*

She said that غى was a river in Hell.

There is a prison in Hell called الفلق. Sayyidina Abdullah ibn Abbas ﷺ and Ka'b ﷺ said that الفلق is a place in Hell. When it will be opened, all the inmates of Hell will shriek because of its heat.

The Prophet ﷺ said that there is a walley on Hell called لملم. The other valleys of Hell will also seek refuge from the the sererity of its heat.[1]

The Prophet ﷺ also said, "On the Day of Resurrection, the

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[1] Qurtubi reported that Ibn Mubarak said, "It is a place for stusborn tyrants."

arrogant people will be gathered like tiny ants in human form. Every little thing will rise above them and they will be admitted into a prison in Hell called Bulas where they will be given to drink the pus and sweat of the inmates of Hell.[1]

There is a well in Hell called جب الحزن. It is for those reciters of the Qur'ān who recite it to be praised by men and perform deeds to show off. The Prophet ﷺ said, 'Seek refuge form it." The sahabah ﷺ asked, "Of Messenger of Allah, what is جب المزن ?" He said, "It is a valley in Hell from which Hell itself seeks refuge seventy times every day. Allah has prepared it for the ostentatious scholars."[2]

Sayyidina Abu Hurayrah ﷺ narrated that there are mills in Hell which will be driven by the evil scholars. Some of those who know them will recognise them and ask them, "Why have you been brought here? We used to learn from you." They will answer, "Yes, we used to enjoin you with piety in the world but we did not put that in practice ourselves."

Allah has said about them:

۞ أَتَأْمُرُونَ ٱلنَّاسَ بِٱلْبِرِّ وَتَنسَوْنَ أَنفُسَكُمْ

Do you enjoin virtue upon mankind, and yet you yourselves forget it. *(2:44)*

Sayyidina Usamah ibn Zayd ﷺ narrated: I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ say, "A man will be brought on the Day of Resurrection. His intestines would have emerged outside and he would be thrust into Hell. He will go round like a donkey round a mill. Other inmates of Hell will ask him, "O man, you used to enjoin piety on us and forbid evil. How are you here?" He will say, "But, I did not practice what I preached, and I perpetrated evil."

FUEL FOR FIRE

The fire of Hell is fueled by two things:

1. Human beings and

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[1] Qurtubi
[2] Tirmidhi. A version says that Hell seeks refuge from it a hundred times and another version, 'four hundred times.'

2. Stones.

Allah has said:

وَقُودُهَا ٱلنَّاسُ وَٱلْحِجَارَةُ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْكَٰفِرِينَ ﴿٢٤﴾

...Whose fuel is mankind and stones. It is prepared for the disbelievers. *(2:24)*

The word الناس (mankind) includes the young and old, women who do not wear the veil and other sinners, the disbelievers and the hypocrites. As for the stones, they will be the idols that were worshipped and the stone of sulphur.

Allah says:

إِنَّكُمْ وَمَا تَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ ٱللَّهِ حَصَبُ جَهَنَّمَ

(Surely you and what you worship besides Allah shall be fuel of Hell.) *(21:98)*

Ibn Mubarak رحمة الله عليه reported that Sayyidina Abbas ibn Abdul Muttalib ﷺ narrated to Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "This religion will reign supreme over all religions till it reaches beyond the oceans. People will advance horses into the oceans to propagate Allah's religion. After that such people will come who will recite the Qur'ān and boast, "Who can recite better than us? Who can know better than us?"

Then Allah's Messenger ﷺ said to the Sahabah ﷺ, "Do you see any good in these people?" They said, "No". He said, "They will be your own people," meaning that they will be of this *ummah*. "And they will be fuel of Hell."[1]

Imam Qurtubi explained the word والحجارة that the stone burning in Hell will be the stone of sulphur.

The reason why it will be used is that the stone of sulphur has five qualities:

(1) It is quickly combustible.

(2) It has a pungent odour.

(3) It has a dense smoke.

(4) It is sticky and sticks on the body.

[1] Qurtubi.

(5) Its temperature soars considerably on heating.

May Allah protect us all from it!

Some exegettes explain that the fire fuelled by stone is for the disbelievers.

VOTARIES OF TYRANTS WILL BE DOGS OF HELL

The votaries of tyrants are their workers and the evil scholars who are their 'yes men' in everything they say - whether lawful or unlawful. The evil scholars are the ones who enjoin piety upon others but neglect to follow up in practice. They forbid evil but do not refrain from it. The workers of the tyrants follow in the footsteps of these evil scholars, as also the evil orators.

Ibn Mubarak reported that Sayyidina Anas ibn Maalik ﷺ narrated: Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "On the night of the mi'raj I saw people whose lips were being cut by scissors of fire. When I asked Jibril ﷺ about them, he said that they were the orators (who encouraged others to do good but neglected that). And they also recited the Book of Allah."

Ibn Mubarak رحمة الله عليه also said that the police who further the wrongs of the tyrants are also the dogs of Hell. (We beseech Allah to keep us safe from this!)

FOOD, DRINK & CLOTHING IN HELL

The inmates of Hell will eat *zaqqum*.



Surely the tree of *Zaqqum* is the food of the sinful, like the molten brass; it shall seethe in their bellies as the seething of boiling water. *(44:43-46)*

They will drink pus.

وَإِن يَسْتَغِيثُوا۟ يُغَاثُوا۟ بِمَآءٍ كَٱلْمُهْلِ يَشْوِى ٱلْوُجُوهَ ۚ بِئْسَ ٱلشَّرَابُ وَسَآءَتْ مُرْتَفَقًا (29)

If they seek aid, they will be aided with water like molten copper, that shall scald their faces - how evil the drink and how vile the resting - place. *(18:29)*

فَلَيْسَ لَهُ ٱلْيَوْمَ هَٰهُنَا حَمِيمٌ ﴿٣٥﴾ وَلَا طَعَامٌ إِلَّا مِنْ غِسْلِينٍ ﴿٣٦﴾ لَّا يَأْكُلُهُۥٓ إِلَّا ٱلْخَٰطِـُٔونَ ﴿٣٧﴾

Therefore, there is no friend for him here today, nor any food except foul pus, which none but the sinners eat. (69:36-37)

The word غسلين is the pus of the inmates of Hell. Their clothes will be of charcoal.

فَٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ قُطِّعَتْ لَهُمْ ثِيَابٌ مِّن نَّارٍ

As for those who disbelieve, garments of fire shall be cut out for them. *(22:19)*

سَرَابِيلُهُم مِّن قَطِرَانٍ

Their garments of pitch. *(14:50)*

They will be given ضريع (a bitter, bad-smelling tree) to eat.

لَّيْسَ لَهُمْ طَعَامٌ إِلَّا مِن ضَرِيعٍ ﴿٦﴾ لَّا يُسْمِنُ وَلَا يُغْنِى مِن جُوعٍ ﴿٧﴾

They shall have no food but of bitter thorns, neither nourishing, nor satisfying hunger. *(88:6-7)*

Some scholars say that ضريع is a kind of grass that grows in spring and dries in summer. The animals also eat it. Some say that ضريع is a stone in Hell.

The inmates of Hell will experience severe thirst and strong hunger. They will plead with the inhabitants of Paradise that they should let them have some of their sustenance.

The words of the Qur'ān are:

وَنَادَىٰٓ أَصْحَٰبُ ٱلنَّارِ أَصْحَٰبَ ٱلْجَنَّةِ أَنْ أَفِيضُوا۟ عَلَيْنَا مِنَ ٱلْمَآءِ أَوْ مِمَّا رَزَقَكُمُ ٱللَّهُ ۚ قَالُوٓا۟ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ حَرَّمَهُمَا عَلَى ٱلْكَٰفِرِينَ ﴿٥٠﴾

And the companions of the Fire will call out to the companions of the Garden, "Pour on us some water, or of what Allah has provided you (in food)." They will reply, "Surely Allah has forbidden both (water and food) to the disbelievers. *(7:50)*

THEIR LAST CALL

Bayhaqi has reported that Muhammad ibn Ka'b al-Qurazi said, "The inmates of Hell will make five supplications. Allah will reply to four of these but not to the fifth. Thereafter, they will make no call. The Qur'ān says:

رَبَّنَآ أَمَتَّنَا ٱثْنَتَيْنِ وَأَحْيَيْتَنَا ٱثْنَتَيْنِ فَٱعْتَرَفْنَا بِذُنُوبِنَا فَهَلْ إِلَىٰ خُرُوجٍ مِّن سَبِيلٍ ﴿١١﴾

Our Lord, twice have You made us die, and twice have You given us life. Now we confess our sins. Is there a way out of (this)?" *(40:11)*

Allah's reply:

ذَٰلِكُم بِأَنَّهُۥٓ إِذَا دُعِىَ ٱللَّهُ وَحْدَهُۥ كَفَرْتُمْ ۖ وَإِن يُشْرَكْ بِهِۦ تُؤْمِنُوا۟ ۚ فَٱلْحُكْمُ لِلَّهِ ٱلْعَلِىِّ ٱلْكَبِيرِ ﴿١٢﴾

That is because when Allah alone was called upon, you dispelieved, but when some one was associated with Him, you believed." So judgement belongs to Allah the High, the Great. *(40:12)*

They will pray:

رَبَّنَآ أَبْصَرْنَا وَسَمِعْنَا فَٱرْجِعْنَا نَعْمَلْ صَٰلِحًا إِنَّا مُوقِنُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

Our Lord! We have seen and heard, so send us back, we will do righteous deeds, surely we are (now) convinced. *(32:12)*

Allah's reply:

فَذُوقُوا۟ بِمَا نَسِيتُمْ لِقَآءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَٰذَآ إِنَّا نَسِينَٰكُمْ ۖ وَذُوقُوا۟ عَذَابَ ٱلْخُلْدِ بِمَا كُنتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

So taste now (the chastisement) because you forgot the meeting of this day of yours; surely we have forgotten you and taste the abiding chastisement for what you used to do.
(32:14)

The inmates of Hell will cry out:

رَبَّنَآ أَخْرِجْنَا نَعْمَلْ صَٰلِحًا غَيْرَ ٱلَّذِى كُنَّا نَعْمَلُ

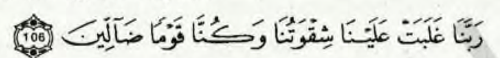
Our Lord! Take us out, we will do righteous deeds, other than what we used to do. *(35:37)*

Allah will say:

أَوَلَمْ نُعَمِّرْكُم مَّا يَتَذَكَّرُ فِيهِ مَن تَذَكَّرَ وَجَآءَكُمُ ٱلنَّذِيرُ
فَذُوقُوا۟ فَمَا لِلظَّٰلِمِينَ مِن نَّصِيرٍ ﴿37﴾

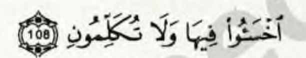
What, did We not grant you a long life enough for one to be admonished who would be admonished? And there came to you the warner. So taste (the fruits of your deeds), because for the evildoers there is no helper. *(35:37)*

They will again complain:



Our Lord! Our wretchedness overcame us, and we were an erring people. *(23:106)*

Allah will say:



Slink you into it, and speak not to Me. *(23:108)*

Imam Qurtubi said that thereafter the inmates of Hell will not have any conversation with Allah.

THE SHRIEK OF THE DWELLERS OF HELL

It is natural for man to cry when he faces punishment and feel pain on his body and soul. Sayyidina Anas ibn Maalik ﷺ narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said, "O people! Weep from fear of Allah in the world. If you do not get the weeping then make as if you weep otherwise you will have to weep in the

Hereafter. So, the inmates of Hell will weep to such an extent that tears will drop on their faces as though rivulets were flowing. Tears would give way to blood that will flow to such an extent that ships could sail in them.[1]

THE LEAST PUNISHED IN HELL

Sayyidina Nu'man ibn Bashir ﷺ narrated a Hadith that on the Day of Resurrection the person who will receive the least punishment will be made to wear sandals of fire because of which his brain would begin to boil.[2]

HELL'S COMPLAINT TO ALLAH

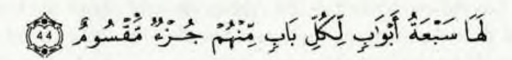
Sayyidina Abu Hurayrah ﷺ narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said, "The fire of Hell complained to Allah that some of its parts overlapped on some others. So, Allah allowed it to take two breaths - one in winter and the other in summer. Hence, the severity of winter is because of Zamharir and the severity of heat is because of the extreme heat of Hell."[3]

O my Muslim brothers! Just give it a thought! You cannot endure the heat of the sun in this world. How you perspire! Then think of the severe heat of Hell - will you be able to bear it? May Allah keep us safe. Aameen!

Sayyidina Abu Sa'eed Khudri ﷺ narrated: I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ say, "When Allah will assemble all the creatures on the Day of Resurrection, the fire will turn to them with full force and its keeper will stop it. The fire will say, 'Do not come between me and my spouses else I will surround all the people at once.' Hell will be asked who its spouses are, and it will say, 'Every arrogant, tyrant.'[4]

SEVEN DOORS OF HELL

Allah says:



1. Tazkirah Qurtubi, Ibn Majah.
2. Muslim 1/196. Bukhari 6561, 6562, Tirmidhi 2604, Darami 2848, Ahmad 3/78.
3. Bukhari # 536, 537, 538, Muslim 185/217
4. Tazkirah Qurtubi.

It has seven gates. To each gate is assigned a portion of them. *(15:44)*

The names of the gates are:

1. *Jahannam,*
2. *Laza,*
3. *Saqar,*
4. *al-Hutamah,*
5. *al-Jahim,*
6. *as-Sa'ir* and
7. *al-Hawiyah.*

Sayyidina Abdullah ibn Abbas ﷺ said, "Hell is pitch black. Ther is no light in it whatever." It has seven gates, each assigned a portion of them.

There are seventy thousand mountains in each gate and each mountain has seventy thousand passes of fire." Each pass has seventy thousand valleys of fire and each valey has seventy thousand houses of fire. Each house has seventy thousand rooms of fire, each room has seventy thousand pitchers filled with poison. On the Day of Resurrection, all these will be uncovered of the screen over them. Black smoke will spread about to all sides - to the right and left, to the fore and rear. Men and jinn will look at it and exclaim:

رَبِّ سَلِّم- رَبِّ سَلِّم

O Lord, save us! O Lord, save us!

We too will raise our voice:

رَبِّ سَلِّم- رَبِّ سَلِّم

Sayyidina Abdulah ibn Mas'ud ﷺ narrated:

The Prophet ﷺ said, "On the Day of Resurrection, Hell will be brought with seventy thousand reins, each will be pulled by seventy thousand angels."[1]

Sayyidina Abdullah ibn Abbas ﷺ said about the keeper of Hell that the distance between his shoulder is a travel of one year. If he will strike once with an iron rod then seventy thousand men will go down to the bottom of Hell."

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[1] Muslim # 29/2848, Tirmidhi # 2573

We must derive lesson from these accounts. It is necessary to relate the Ahadith about Hell. There are some Ahadith that we cannot comprehend in this world merely with our intelligence. Allah has said:

وَمَا يَعْلَمُ جُنُودَ رَبِّكَ إِلَّا هُوَ

And none knows the hosts of your Lord but He. *(74:31)*

CHAPTER THREE

WOMEN WHO RECEIVED TIDINGS OF HELL

- Wife of Sayyidina Nūh عليه السلام
- Wife of Sayyidina Lūt عليه السلام
- Wife of *Abu Lahab* – the carrier of firewood
- The woman who killed Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام

THE WIFE OF SAYYIDINA NUH عليه السلام

Allah the Exalted, made the wife of Sayyidina Nūh عليه السلام an example for the disbelievers.

She was wife of a Messenger who preached to his people for mine hundred and fifty years.

Sayyidina Nūh عليه السلام invited his people for nine hundred and fifty years to believe in the unity of God. But they were unmoved, except for a few people who believed during this long period of time. The believers numbered about eighty - or, according to some, lesser than that. It is worth considering why such a lengthy effort bore no result. Why did the people not accept their Prophet's invitation? Every thinking intelligent person is liable to get this question into his mind.

One of the several reasons was the mischievous attitude of his wife.

The Qur'ān speaks elaborately on the refusal of this woman to accept the invitation of her husband and her becoming a hindrance in his mission.

ضَرَبَ ٱللَّهُ مَثَلًا لِّلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ ٱمْرَأَتَ نُوحٍ وَٱمْرَأَتَ لُوطٍ ۖ كَانَتَا تَحْتَ عَبْدَيْنِ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا صَٰلِحَيْنِ فَخَانَتَاهُمَا فَلَمْ يُغْنِيَا عَنْهُمَا مِنَ ٱللَّهِ شَيْـًٔا وَقِيلَ ٱدْخُلَا ٱلنَّارَ مَعَ ٱلدَّٰخِلِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

Allah has struck a similitude for those who disbelieve - the wife of Nūh and the wife of Lūt. They were under two of Our righteous servants, but they betroyed them, so that they (their husband's availed them nothing whatsoever against Allah: so it was said (to them), "Enter the Fire along with the enterers." *(66:10)*

In human history, the wife of Sayyidina Nūh was a very bad example among the wives of the preachers. In fact, she was

also a lesson and example for the disbelievers.

The Qur'ān has described her sin and disbelief as betrayal. However, we must remrember that her betroyal was not in their marital life. Rather, it was in belief of tawhid (monotheism) and – her husband's invitation. She betrayed him by incitng the people not to accept his invitation.

Why did she reject his call? There is no answer to this question in books of history and the Qur'ān. Nevertheless, history books do record her biography. This descloses that she was a resolute, strong woman. She did try to achieve a distinct position in the manner of women of this generation who seek to win liberation.

She was a champion of women's liberation movement. Thus, one of the reason to reject her husband was her arrogance about her own person. She hindered her husband all through the nine hundred and fifty years of his energetic preaching merely to hold out that she was and independent woman. The result was that her arrogance took her to Hell.

WHO WAS SHE

The biographers and historians have given Prophet Nūh's عليه السلام wife's different names: Umzrah (or Awzrah) bint Barakil عمذره بنت براكيل, (Wahilah واهله or Waghilah واغله).

Sayyidah Ayshah رضى الله عنها narrated that Sayyidina Jibril عليه السلام came to the Prophet and said that the name of Prophet Nūh's عليه السلام wife was Waghilah واغله and of Prophet Lūt's عليه السلام was Walihah والهه.[1]

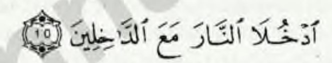
Sayyidina Abdullah Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه narrated: "The wife of Nūh عليه السلام used to tell the people that he was insane. She did not commit treachery in their marital life." Never has any Prophet's wife comitted adultery and all exegeltes are unanimous on this issue. Also, she did not betray him in his honour and nobility, but she did betray him in religion. Not only did she refuse to believe but she also incited others to reject him and not to listen to him.

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[1] Tafsir Qurtubi (Surah at-Tahrim)

How thought provoking! The wife of a great Prophet and preacher stood at a very blameworthy station. How she rediculed her husband! Her conduct made her worthy of Hell, and other women like her.

Her fate is a caution for every woman who is an obstacle to religion. It is also a warning for all women who instigate women to shun the veil on the pretext of female liberation. Indeed, we see the likes of Nūh's ﷺ wife in every era. They are the women who work to remove all religious restrictions for women. Allah says:



Enter the fire along with the enterers. *(66:10)*

This Divine command applies not only to the wives of Prophet Nūh ﷺ and Prophet Lūt ﷺ but to all women who follow in the footsteps of the wife of Prophet Nūh ﷺ. Observe! Their marital relationship with Prophets could not save them from Hell and Divine punishment. The Prophet ﷺ made it very clear that everyone must rectify his or her conduct, for relationship with a Prophet will not help any body. He had said to Sayyidah Fatimah رضی الله عنها:

﴿اعملی فانی لا اغنی عنكِ من الله شيئا﴾

Perform your deeds, for, I will be of no avail to you with Allah.

He had said the same thing to his uncle, Sayyidina Abbas ﷺ and aunt, Sayyidah Safiyah رضی الله عنها.

INVITATION TO HIS PEOPLE

The era of Prophet Nūh ﷺ was close to the era of Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ. Some say that Nūh ﷺ was the tenth grandson of Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ - there were ten generations between them.

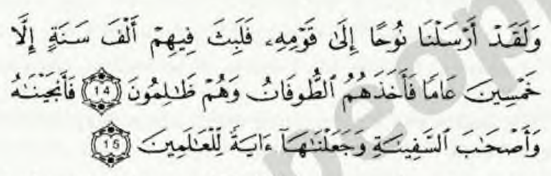
DESCENT

The books of biography and history give his line of descent thus:

Nūh ibn Lamik ibn Matushalkh ibn Akhnukh (Idris) ibn Yard ibn Mahlabil ibn Qinan ibn Anush ibn Shith ibn Aadam ﷺ.

Someone asked the Prophet ﷺ, "Was Aadam ﷺ a Prophet?" He said, "Yes he was a Prophet who conversed with Allah." The man asked, "How much time separated them?" He said, "Ten qurun." The word qurun here means generation, not a hundred years. Some people say that Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ was the first Messenger to be sent in the world, this raises the question: was no Messenger sent before him?

This opinion is not correct. Scholars of exegesis and history agree that generations that preceded Prophet Nūh ﷺ were monotheists. Tabari has stated in 'Tarikh' that one hundred and twenty six years separated Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ and Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ. It is also stated in Ahadith that before Prophet Nūh ﷺ, Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ - the father of mankind - was a Prophet. Also, his sons Sayyidina Shith ﷺ and Sayyidina Idris ﷺ were Prophets and Messengers having been sent to their respective peoples. The exegettes are agreed that these Prophets were sent to monotheist peoples, but Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ was sent to idolaters. This is why he is called the first Messenger. Allah says:



And certainly We sent Nūh ﷺ to his people, so he tarried among them a thousand years less fifty years. Then, the deluge seized them while they were evil-doers. So We delievered him and the inmates of the Ark, and made it a sign to the worlds. *(29:14-15)*

All the ten generations between Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ and Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ were believers in one God. Then, how did they become idol-worshippers? What was the reason to abandon monotheism and take up idolatory.

The history books tell us that there were pious people among them — some of them also Prophets named in the Qur'ān as Wadd, Suwa', Yaghuth, Ya'uq and Nasr, offspring of Sayyidina Aadam ﷺ. When they died, the people were grieved much. They stayed at their graves remembering their piety. The devil seized the opportunity and came to them in human form and sympathised with them, saying, "Seeing your sorrow, I have decided to make for you a representation of these people that you may keep them with you and remember them. What do you say?" So, he made for them a representation of each of these five people. Then he made small statues - figuerines - of them to keep them in their homes. So, these people kept the statues in their homes as we keep pictures of our elders though Shari'ah does not permit it. It is forbidden to make pictures of ányone, and to kep them in home is to drive away angels of mercy and draw in the devil.

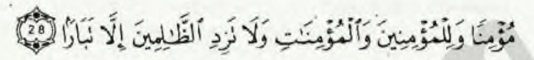
Anyway, the people of Nūh ﷺ kept the models in their homes. Gradually, they forget the origin and by the next generation the representations were taken as gods and worshipped. They gave up worship of Allah and believed that the idols gave them everything.

So, Allah sent to them one of their own righteous men, Nūh ﷺ as His Messenger that they might give up idolatory and return to Allah.

Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ preached to them for nine hundred and fifty years - day and night. He never was lethargic. But, his people refused to return to the ancient religion. They continued on their stubborn ways and idolatory. The Qur'ān says:

إِنَّآ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِۦٓ أَنْ أَنذِرْ قَوْمَكَ مِن قَبْلِ أَن يَأْتِيَهُمْ
عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴿١﴾ قَالَ يَٰقَوْمِ إِنِّى لَكُمْ نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ ﴿٢﴾ أَنِ ٱعْبُدُوا۟
ٱللَّهَ وَٱتَّقُوهُ وَأَطِيعُونِ ﴿٣﴾ يَغْفِرْ لَكُم مِّن ذُنُوبِكُمْ وَيُؤَخِّرْكُمْ إِلَىٰٓ
أَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى ۚ إِنَّ أَجَلَ ٱللَّهِ إِذَا جَآءَ لَا يُؤَخَّرُ ۖ لَوْ كُنتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

﴿4﴾ قَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّي دَعَوْتُ قَوْمِي لَيْلًا وَنَهَارًا ﴿5﴾ فَلَمْ يَزِدْهُمْ دُعَآءِيٓ إِلَّا
فِرَارًا ﴿6﴾ وَإِنِّي كُلَّمَا دَعَوْتُهُمْ لِتَغْفِرَ لَهُمْ جَعَلُوٓا۟ أَصَٰبِعَهُمْ فِيٓ
ءَاذَانِهِمْ وَٱسْتَغْشَوْا۟ ثِيَابَهُمْ وَأَصَرُّوا۟ وَٱسْتَكْبَرُوا۟ ٱسْتِكْبَارًا ﴿7﴾ ثُمَّ
إِنِّي دَعَوْتُهُمْ جِهَارًا ﴿8﴾ ثُمَّ إِنِّيٓ أَعْلَنتُ لَهُمْ وَأَسْرَرْتُ لَهُمْ إِسْرَارًا
﴿9﴾ فَقُلْتُ ٱسْتَغْفِرُوا۟ رَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُۥ كَانَ غَفَّارًا ﴿10﴾ يُرْسِلِ
ٱلسَّمَآءَ عَلَيْكُم مِّدْرَارًا ﴿11﴾ وَيُمْدِدْكُم بِأَمْوَٰلٍ وَبَنِينَ وَيَجْعَل لَّكُمْ
جَنَّٰتٍ وَيَجْعَل لَّكُمْ أَنْهَٰرًا ﴿12﴾ مَّا لَكُمْ لَا تَرْجُونَ لِلَّهِ وَقَارًا ﴿13﴾ وَقَدْ
خَلَقَكُمْ أَطْوَارًا ﴿14﴾ أَلَمْ تَرَوْا۟ كَيْفَ خَلَقَ ٱللَّهُ سَبْعَ سَمَٰوَٰتٍ طِبَاقًا
﴿15﴾ وَجَعَلَ ٱلْقَمَرَ فِيهِنَّ نُورًا وَجَعَلَ ٱلشَّمْسَ سِرَاجًا ﴿16﴾ وَٱللَّهُ
أَنۢبَتَكُم مِّنَ ٱلْأَرْضِ نَبَاتًا ﴿17﴾ ثُمَّ يُعِيدُكُمْ فِيهَا وَيُخْرِجُكُمْ إِخْرَاجًا
﴿18﴾ وَٱللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ ٱلْأَرْضَ بِسَاطًا ﴿19﴾ لِّتَسْلُكُوا۟ مِنْهَا سُبُلًا
فِجَاجًا ﴿20﴾ قَالَ نُوحٌ رَّبِّ إِنَّهُمْ عَصَوْنِي وَٱتَّبَعُوا۟ مَن لَّمْ يَزِدْهُ مَالُهُۥ
وَوَلَدُهُۥٓ إِلَّا خَسَارًا ﴿21﴾ وَمَكَرُوا۟ مَكْرًا كُبَّارًا ﴿22﴾ وَقَالُوا۟ لَا تَذَرُنَّ
ءَالِهَتَكُمْ وَلَا تَذَرُنَّ وَدًّا وَلَا سُوَاعًا وَلَا يَغُوثَ وَيَعُوقَ وَنَسْرًا ﴿23﴾
وَقَدْ أَضَلُّوا۟ كَثِيرًا وَلَا تَزِدِ ٱلظَّٰلِمِينَ إِلَّا ضَلَٰلًا ﴿24﴾ مِّمَّا
خَطِيٓـَٰٔتِهِمْ أُغْرِقُوا۟ فَأُدْخِلُوا۟ نَارًا فَلَمْ يَجِدُوا۟ لَهُم مِّن دُونِ ٱللَّهِ
أَنصَارًا ﴿25﴾ وَقَالَ نُوحٌ رَّبِّ لَا تَذَرْ عَلَى ٱلْأَرْضِ مِنَ ٱلْكَٰفِرِينَ دَيَّارًا
﴿26﴾ إِنَّكَ إِن تَذَرْهُمْ يُضِلُّوا۟ عِبَادَكَ وَلَا يَلِدُوٓا۟ إِلَّا فَاجِرًا
كَفَّارًا ﴿27﴾ رَّبِّ ٱغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَٰلِدَيَّ وَلِمَن دَخَلَ بَيْتِيَ



Surely We sent Nūh to his people saying, "Warn your people before there comes to them a painful chastisement."

He said, "O my people, surely I am a plain warner to you, that you should worship Allah and fear Him, and obey me. He will forgive you your sins, and will defer you to an appointed term. Surely the term of Allah, when it comes, it shall not be deferred, if you but knew. He said,"My Lord, I have called my people night and day, but my calling increases them in naught but (their) feeling. And surely whenever I called them that You might forgive them, they put their fingers in their ears, and wrapped themselves with their garments and persisted and showed vehement arrogance. Then surely I called them aloud; Then I spoke to them publicly, and I spoke to them secretly. So I said, "Seek forgiveness of your Lord; surely, He is ever Forgiving. He will send down upon you rain in torrents, and will help with riches, and sons, and will assign to you gardens, and will assign to you rivers. What is the matter with you that you look not for majesty in Allah, and indeed He created you in stages? Have you not considered how Allah created seven heavens one above another, and placed the moon therein for a light, and placed the sun for a lamp? And Allah has caused you to grow out of the earth as a growth, then He shall return you into it, and bring you forth in a (new) bringing forth. And Allah has made for you the earth an expanse, that you may traverse thereof the open ways."

Nūh said, "My Lord, surely they disobeyed me and followed him whose wealth and children have increased him in naught but loss, and they have devised a mighty devise. And they have said, 'Do not leave your gods, nor leave Wadd, nor Suwa, nor Yaghuth, nor Ya'uq, nor Nasr.' And indeed they have led many astray. Increase the evildoers in naught but error!"

And because of their sins they were drowned, and then admitted into Fire, so they did not find for themselves any helpers besides Allah.

And Nūh said, "My Lord, leave not of the disbelievers any dweller on the earth. Surely, if You leave them, they will lead astray Your servants, and will beget none but miscreant, ingrate ones. My Lord, forgive me and my parents and him who enters my house as a believer, and the believing men and the believing women. And You increase not the

evildoers but in ruin!" *(71:1-28)*

Surprisingly, Prophet Nūh's ﷺ wife – in spite of staying in the house of a Prophet – rejected monotheism and prophethood. She had her son, Kin'an, too on her side. He openly rejected his father.

Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ had four sons: Haam, Ṣaam, Yafith and Kin'an. Except for the last named, all his sons were believers.

When he had preached for nine hundred and fifty long years and the people showed no sign of belief, Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ was informed by revelation that they were not destined to believe. Only those few that had believed would remain in the folds of Islam. Allah ordered him to make a boat.

Biographers and historians have stated that Prophet Nūh ﷺ grew trees for a hundred years. Then, in obedience to Allah's command, he began to chop trees to be able to build a boat. When he began work on the boat, his people made fun of him because there was no flowing water around to sail a boat on. He would say, "You will know soon."

His wife also ridiculed him. She fomented trouble by stirring up the people to mock him. She and her son stuck to idol-worship. Then – by the will of Allah – a violent wind blew and the whole land was flooded far and wide. Everyone, besides the Believers, was drowned. The Believers had embarked on the ark with Sayyidina Nūh ﷺ and were saved.

THE ARK AND THE DELUGE

Some scholars state that the dimensions of the ark were: 1200 yards long and 600 yards broad. It was three – storied. The animals, birds and human beings occupied each storey. Allah had commanded him to take on it two pairs of every kind. Allah said:

قُلْنَا ٱحْمِلْ فِيهَا مِن كُلٍّ زَوْجَيْنِ ٱثْنَيْنِ وَأَهْلَكَ إِلَّا مَن
سَبَقَ عَلَيْهِ ٱلْقَوْلُ وَمَنْ ءَامَنَ ۚ وَمَآ ءَامَنَ مَعَهُۥٓ إِلَّا قَلِيلٌ ﴿٤٠﴾

We said, "Embark in it a pair from every kind, and your household - except him against whom the word has already gone forth - and whoever has believed." And there had not believed with him except a few. *(11:40)*

The earth and heaven received Allah's command to let out water. Earth and the earthlings must be drowned - only the ark of salvation must sail on it and be safe. Thus, water poured forth from heaven and earth and all the disobedient were drowned. The Believers were safe.

After the destruction of those people, a new generation grew from the sons of Sayyidina Nūh عليه السلام - Saam, Haam and Yafith. Saam's descendants are the Arabs, Persians and Romans. The descendants of Yafith are the Yajuj and Majuj, the Turks and Saqalibah, and of Haam are the Qubts (copts), Berber and the Ethiopians.[1]

The ark sailed with Prophet Nūh عليه السلام and his co-travellers for a hundred and fifty days. When Allah commanded the water to dry, it stopped on land.

Allah said:

وَقِيلَ يَٰٓأَرْضُ ٱبْلَعِى مَآءَكِ وَيَٰسَمَآءُ أَقْلِعِى وَغِيضَ ٱلْمَآءُ وَقُضِىَ ٱلْأَمْرُ وَٱسْتَوَتْ عَلَى ٱلْجُودِىِّ

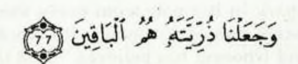
And it was said, "Of earth, swallow your water and, Of heaven, abate!" And the waters subsided, and the affair was decided, and it (the ark) rested on al-Judi. *(11:44)*

Some scholars say that Judi is a mountain in the north of Iraq. Thereafter, Islam spread on earth. There was no disbeliever, nor any disobedient. All people were blessed with faith and were good worshippers. All disbelievers, including Prophet Nūh's عليه السلام wife and son, perished.

Allah says:

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[1] Ibn Kathir (in his Tarikh) and Bazzar (in his Musnad) reported on the authority of Sayyidina Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه that Saam's children included the Arabs, persians and Romans, and they spell good. Yafith's children include Yajuj and Majuj, Turks and Saqaliba and they have no good in them. And Haam's children are the Qubtis, Berbers and Sudanese. The Qubts are Egyptians, offspring of Misriyam ibn Qubt ibn Haam ibn Nuh.



And We made his progeny the survivors. *(37:77)*

THE WIFE OF SAYYIDINA LUT عليه السلام

- The mischievous woman
- Wife of Allah's Prophet Lūt عليه السلام
- She and Prophet Nūh's عليه السلام wife were told in this very life that they would go to Hell.

She is the second woman after the wife of Sayyidina Nūh عليه السلام who is mentioned in the Qur'ān as an example for the disbelievers. She too was a Prophet's wife - Prophet Lūt's عليه السلام.

Allah says:

ضَرَبَ ٱللَّهُ مَثَلًا لِّلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ ٱمْرَأَتَ نُوحٍ وَٱمْرَأَتَ لُوطٍ ۖ كَانَتَا تَحْتَ عَبْدَيْنِ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا صَٰلِحَيْنِ فَخَانَتَاهُمَا فَلَمْ يُغْنِيَا عَنْهُمَا مِنَ ٱللَّهِ شَيْـًٔا وَقِيلَ ٱدْخُلَا ٱلنَّارَ مَعَ ٱلدَّٰخِلِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

Allah has struck a similitude for those who disbelieve - the wife of Nūh and the wife of Lūt. They were under two of Our righteous servants, but they betrayed them, so that they (their husband's) availed them nothing whatsoever against Allah so it was said (to them), "Enter the Fire along with the enterers." *(66:10)*

These words do not imply a betrayal on the bed, but betrayal of belief. These women betrayed their husband to turn their people against them.

This is the story of the woman who disobeyed her husband in order that she may have her say. He used to invite people to believe in one God and to abandon the idols. He also urged them to shun the unnatural act with young boys.

However, she ridiculed her husband in co-operation with the people. She called him insane. Surely, she was an evil woman.

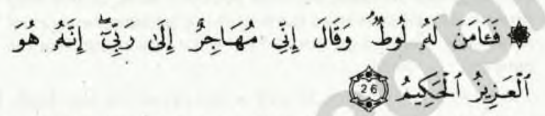
She belonged to Sadum who had degenrated in morals. They are known to be the first people to commit unnatural act with boys. They perpetrated homosexuality openly and felt no shame about it. Perhaps our contemporaries are like these ancient people, for, we can find people, today, who boast about the sin they commit without the least compunction.

In addition to this sin, the people of Sayyidina Lūt ﷺ also indulged in robbery. They snatched merchandise of travelling traders. They were a very bad people. They resided in Sadum - near the border of Jordan and Iraq.

THE PROPHET'S UPBRINGING

We have seen what kind of woman she was. Sayyidina Lūt ﷺ had grown up in different surroundings. He had strengthened his monotheism under his uncle Sayyidina Ibrahim ﷺ. He had also observed how his people had flung him into the fire. After that, Sayyidina Lūt ﷺ sought Sayyidina Ibrahim's ﷺ permission to migrate to preach to people. He cast an inspecting eye and found the worst of people in Sadum and Ammuriyah.

Allah says:



And Lūt believed in him. And he (Ibrahim) said, "Surely I will flee to my Lord. Surely he is the Mighty, the wise. *(29:26)*

Sayyidina Lūt ﷺ then married a woman of his neighbourhood. It is said that she was Walihah. She bore him two daughters. Time flew. He invited the people to belief while she called him insane. He followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Sayyidina Ibrahim ﷺ and invited people to piety and Allah commisioned him as a Prophet and Messenger. He called them to believe in one Allah and to shun idol-worship. He tried to cure them of the sexual diseases which had affected them,

homosexsuality – and highway robbery.

He persisted in his mission, but they did not accept his invitation. His wife paid him no ear. Rather, she threatened him and warned him.

Allah says;

وَلُوطًا إِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهِۦٓ إِنَّكُمْ لَتَأْتُونَ ٱلْفَٰحِشَةَ مَا سَبَقَكُم بِهَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ مِّنَ ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿28﴾ أَئِنَّكُمْ لَتَأْتُونَ ٱلرِّجَالَ وَتَقْطَعُونَ ٱلسَّبِيلَ وَتَأْتُونَ فِى نَادِيكُمُ ٱلْمُنكَرَ

And Lūt, (recall) when he said to his people, "Surely you commit an indecency in which no one in the worlds has preceded you. Do you come to males, and cut the way, and comit vices in your assemblies?" *(29:28-29)*

The Qur'ān reproduced their answer.

أَخْرِجُوهُم مِّن قَرْيَتِكُمْ إِنَّهُمْ أُنَاسٌ يَتَطَهَّرُونَ ﴿82﴾

Expel them from your town, they are a people who keep pure. *(7:82)*

However, Sayyidina Lūt عليه السلام did not care about their threats. Their enmity and obstinacy did not deter him in the least and he maintained to give his advice to them courageously.

إِنِّى لَكُمْ رَسُولٌ أَمِينٌ ﴿162﴾ فَٱتَّقُوا۟ ٱللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُونِ ﴿163﴾ وَمَآ أَسْـَٔلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ أَجْرٍ إِنْ أَجْرِىَ إِلَّا عَلَىٰ رَبِّ ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿164﴾ أَتَأْتُونَ ٱلذُّكْرَانَ مِنَ ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿165﴾ وَتَذَرُونَ مَا خَلَقَ لَكُمْ رَبُّكُم مِّنْ أَزْوَٰجِكُم بَلْ أَنتُمْ قَوْمٌ عَادُونَ ﴿166﴾

Surely I am unto you a faithful Messenger, so fear Allah and obey me; and I ask of you no reward for it; my reward is only with the Lord of the worlds. Do you come to the males from

among all the creatures, and leave what your Lord has created for you of your wives? Nay, you are a people transgressing limits." *(26:162-166)*

Sayyidina Lūt continued to preach in spite of these difficulties and obstacles. It is not easy to trek the path of Allah and invite the people.

IT IS NOT EASY TO BE A MUSLIM

People suppose that this path is laid with roses. Rather, it is very difficult and beset with hardship. However, ultimately, Allah's command prevails.

PROPHET LUT FACED WIFE'S OPPOSITION

Prophet Lūt's two daughters believed in him but his wife remained a staunch opponent. She sided with the opposing people in order that she build for herself a distinct personality. She disliked obedience to her husband which an ordinary woman is known for. The women of today are of the same kind as her - regretably.

The exegettes have explained that when the angels came to Prophet Lūt with the objective of punishing them, this woman disclosed to the people that guests had arrived at Lūt's house. The Qur'ān described this as a 'betrayal'.

Like his uncle, Sayyidina Ibrahim, Sayyidina Lūt was quick to host the guests and honour them. It was the habit of Prophet Ibrahim that he did not eat till he had a guest with him which is why he was called ابو الضيفان (the father of guests). His nephew, Prophet Lūt had the same trait; he was always on the look-out fc r guests.

One day, he was occupied on his fields when the angels Jibril, Mika'il and Israfil came to him as beautiful young men and requested him to take them as guests overnight. He took them home and disclosed to them the evil habit of his people. "By Allah, I do not know if there is anyone worse than them on earth."

He took them home afraid that his people may not surround these young men. He told his wife not to inform

anyone of his guests. She nodded but quietly slipped out of the house and disclosed to the people about the guests. In other words, she betrayed her husband.

That was a bitter moment when the people came to him and demanded that he hand over to them his guests that they may commit evil with them. Indeed, they were the worst people in human history. The Qur'ān says about this regretable event.



And inform them of the guests of Ibrahim, (recall) when they entered upon him, they said, "Peace!" He said, "Surely we are afraid of you." They said, "Be not afraid surely we give you glad tidings of a boy, possessing knowledge." He said, "Do you give me glad tidings when old age has overtaken me? Of what do you then give me glad tidings?" They said, "We give you glad tidings with truth so be not you of the despairing." He said, "And who despairs of the mercy of Allah except those who are astray?" He said, "What is your business then, O Messengers?" They said, "We have been sent to a guilty people, (all) except the household of Lūt, surely we are going to deliever them all together, except his wife, of whom we have decreed that she shall be among the lingerers." So when the Messengers came to the household of Lūt, he said, "Surely you are a people unkow (to me)." They said, "Nay, we have come to you with that concerning which they have been doubting, and we have brought you the truth, and surely we are truthful. So travel with your household in a part of the night and follow their backs. And let not anyone of you turn round but go wither you are commanded."

And We decreed for him that commandment that the roots of those (guilty people) should be cut off in the moring. And the people of the town came rejoicing. He said, "Surely these are my guests so disgrace me not, and fear Alah, and degrade me not." They said, "Did we not forbid you from (entertaining) the people." He said, "These are my daughters, if you would be doing." By your life (O Prophet) they wandered blindly in their intoxication. So the shout seized them at the sunrise, thus We made the upside of that (town)

downwards, and We rained upon them stones of baked clay. Surely in that are signs for the sagacious. And surely that (town) is on a road yet lasting. Surely in that is asign for the believers. *(15:51-77)*

Sayyidina Lūt was worried on seeing them and asked,

أَلَيْسَ مِنكُمْ رَجُلٌ رَّشِيدٌ ﴿٧٨﴾

Is there not among you any right-minded man? *(11:78)*

He longed for strength to defend his guests from the evildoers. He said to himself:

لَوْ أَنَّ لِي بِكُمْ قُوَّةً أَوْ ءَاوِيٓ إِلَىٰ رُكْنٍ شَدِيدٍ ﴿٨٠﴾

Would that I had power against you, or might have some strong for refuge. *(11:80)*

Prophet Lūt عليه السلام said to them, "Your wives are pure and lawful for you. Satisfy your desires with them."

يَٰقَوْمِ هَٰٓؤُلَآءِ بَنَاتِي هُنَّ أَطْهَرُ لَكُمْ ۖ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُخْزُونِ فِي ضَيْفِيٓ ۖ أَلَيْسَ مِنكُمْ رَجُلٌ رَّشِيدٌ ﴿٧٨﴾

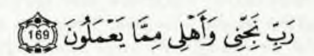
O my people! These are my daughters! They are purer for you. So fear Allah and degrade me not about my guests. Is there not among you any right – minded man?" *(11:28)*

His words, "these my daughters" referred to their wives who were like his daughters. The women of the *ummah* are like a Prophet's daughters while his own wives are their mother.

ٱلنَّبِيُّ أَوْلَىٰ بِٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ مِنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ ۖ وَأَزْوَٰجُهُۥٓ أُمَّهَٰتُهُمْ

The Prophet is closer to the Believers than their own selves and his wives are عليهم السلام **their mothers.** *(33:6)*

Surely, a Prophet is of the station of a father for his *ummah*. Then, he prayed to his Lord:



My Lord! Deliever me and my household from what they do! *(26:169)*

The angels saw that he could not resist his people, so they convinced him by disclosing the facts.

قَالُوا يَا لُوطُ إِنَّا رُسُلُ رَبِّكَ لَن يَصِلُوا إِلَيْكَ فَأَسْرِ بِأَهْلِكَ بِقِطْعٍ مِّنَ اللَّيْلِ وَلَا يَلْتَفِتْ مِنكُمْ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا امْرَأَتَكَ إِنَّهُ مُصِيبُهَا مَا أَصَابَهُمْ إِنَّ مَوْعِدَهُمُ الصُّبْحُ أَلَيْسَ الصُّبْحُ بِقَرِيبٍ

They said, "Of Lūt! We are Messengers of your Lord. They shall not reach you. So travel with your people for a part of the night - and let none of you turn round - excepting your wife. Surely whatsoever befalls them shall befall her. Surely their appointed time is the morning. Is not the morning nigh?" *(11:81)*

Allah accepted His Prophet's prayer and blinded those people.

وَلَقَدْ رَاوَدُوهُ عَن ضَيْفِهِ فَطَمَسْنَا أَعْيُنَهُمْ فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِ (37)

And certainly they solicited him for his guests: so We obliterated their eyes; (saying) "so taste My chastisement and My warnings." *(54:37)*

The people surrounded Prophet Lūt's ﷺ home so that they might commit wrong with his guests, but it is always that Divine decree prevails. They could not, therefore, harm them in the least. The Prophet ﷺ took his two daughters and wife and went out of his house a little before dawn. Allah had commanded them that none of them must turn back and look in order that they may be safe from the punishment that would overtake his people.

We know that his wife was disobedient to Allah in all matters. So, she did not obey this command too and turned back to see. She had great love for her people and this love took her to destruction.

The angels destroyed the place and its dwellers. They

turned the place upside down. This was the consequence of these evil people.

فَلَمَّا جَآءَ أَمْرُنَا جَعَلْنَا عَٰلِيَهَا سَافِلَهَا وَأَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهَا حِجَارَةً مِّن سِجِّيلٍ مَّنضُودٍ ﴿٨٢﴾ مُّسَوَّمَةً عِندَ رَبِّكَ ۖ وَمَا هِيَ مِنَ ٱلظَّٰلِمِينَ بِبَعِيدٍ ﴿٨٣﴾

So when our command came, We turned the upside thereof downward, and rained on it stones of baked clay, one after another, marked from your Lord. And that is never far from the evildoers. *(11:82-83)*

FATE OF PROPHET LUT'S عليه السلام WIFE

She always demanded this day. She was the one who had informed the people of the guests. As a result they tried to commit wrong with the guests who were Allah's angels that had come in the appearance of beautiful lads. Sayyidina Lūt عليه السلام stood in their way while his wife had incited them, not knowing that they will face a telling punishment. Finally, Allah ordered that they should be punished to extinction.

إِنَّ مَوْعِدَهُمُ ٱلصُّبْحُ

Surely their appointed time is the morning. *(11:81)*

When they had surrounded his house threateningly, Sayyidina Lūt عليه السلام had wished that they should perish. But, there is a time for everything. They were given time to repent. This is evidence of Allah's mercy. But, they insisted on doing evil. So, he took his daughters, Rita and Azya and his old wife and went out. There was an earthquake. Stones rained from the heaven as happened later on with the owners of the elephants. Sayyidina Jibril عليه السلام carried the inhabitation on his two wings and took it up to the heaven where he threw it down wrong side up. When Prophet Lūt's عليه السلام wife heard the people shriek and turned back to see, she too was punished in the same way as her people.

She stubornly committed sin till her last breath. She continued to disobey her husband. A woman who is disobedient to her husband faces a like consequence everywhere and every time.

Allah's help for him is a source of satisfaction for a Muslim in all times.

May Allah preserve us from every mischief. May He destroy every sinning people, as He destroyed Prophet Lūt's people. Surely, only He hears prayers and accept them.

حَمَّالَةَ ٱلْحَطَبِ

"The carrier of wood"

Umm Jamil Arwi bint Harb ibn Umayyah,

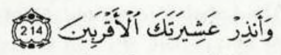
- the wicked wife of Abu Lahab about both of whom a whole surah was revealed giving them tidings of Hell while they were alive,
- she vehemently opposed Islam in its earlier days; she used to harass the Prophet ﷺ and back up her disbelieving husband, the Prophet's uncle.

UMM JAMIL

She is the third woman of whom Islam has told us (will go to Hell). She harassed the Prophet ﷺ. Her husband was Abdul Uzza ibn Abdul Muttalib (Abu Lahab), the Prophet's ﷺ uncle. Before the Prophet ﷺ was commisioned, two sons of Abu Lahab and Umm Jamil were married to the Prophet's ﷺ two daughters, Ruqayyah رضى الله عنها and Umm Kulthum رضى الله عنها. When the Prophet ﷺ was commissioned and he publicly gave the invitaiton, Abu Lahab and Um-Jamil instructed their sons to divorce the Prophet's ﷺ daughters that he may grieve.

INVITATION TO NEAR RELATIVES

Initially, Allah commanded the Prophet ﷺ to give the call to his relateves secretly.



And warn your clan, the nearest kin. *(26:214)*

So, he invited his closest relatives and siad, "I invite you to accept two words which are light on the tongue but heavy in the scale of deeds - give testimony that there is no God other than Allah and that I am His Messenger."[1]

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[1] Sirah Halbiyah.

His relatives rejected this call politely and this was natural. History speaks for that. But, his uncle Abu Lahab took family honour as a shield and vigorously opposed the Prophet ﷺ in spite of the very close kinship.

He said to the other guests, "By Allah, this is bad and shameful. Check his hand before other people check him." Abu Talib said, "By Allah, as long as we are alive, we shall defend him. By Allah, they cannot come to you with their armies and supporters before we are buried in the grave." The Prophet's ﷺ aunt, Safiyah رضى الله عنها said, trying to pacify her brother, Abu Lahab, "Will you be pleased with the disgrace of your nephew and of Islam? By Allah, scholars have been telling us that there will be a Prophet from the progeny of Abdul Muttalib. He could be the one." This caused Abu Lahab's rage to increase. He said, "By Allah, this is wrong and doubtful women should restrict their speech within their bedrooms. If all tribes of Quraysh and other Arabs stand up against us then, by Allah, we shall be unable to stand against them."

Then he threatened the Prophet ﷺ saying, "I will stake my wealth and children to throttle this call. His wife also abetted him and both husband and wife become staunch enemies of the Prophet ﷺ.

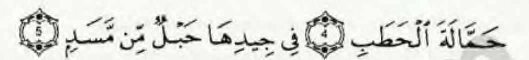
When the Prophet ﷺ decided to invite the Quraysh to Islam, he went to Batha. He climbed a mountain and called out the Quraysh. When they were assembled, he said, "What do you say - if I tell you that your enemy will attack you in the morning or evening, will you believe me?" They confirmed that they would. He said, "I am warning you that I see a severe chastisement..." Abu Lahab interrupted, "Did you summon us for this reason. May you perish."[1]

At that, Allah revealed:

تَبَّتْ يَدَآ أَبِى لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ ﴿١﴾ مَآ أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُ مَالُهُۥ وَمَا كَسَبَ ﴿٢﴾ سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ ﴿٣﴾ وَٱمْرَأَتُهُۥ

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[1] Bukhari as narrated by Ibn Abbasi # 4971, 4972.



Perished are the hands of Abu Lahab, and perished is he. His wealth will not avail him, nor what he has earned. Soon he shall enter a flaming fire - and his wife - the carrier of fire wood; upon her neck a rope of palm fibres. *(111:1-5)*

When she heard this, Umm Jamil picked up a stone and looked out for the Prophet ﷺ that she might strike him. He was sitting in Masjid al-Haram. Abu Bakr ؓ was with him. When he saw her, Abu Bakr ؓ exclaimed, "O Allah's Messenger, there she is! I fear she might see you." He said, "She cannot see me," and he recited the Qur'ān. Indeed, she did not see him. She asked Abu Bakr ؓ, "O Abu Bakr, I have heard that your friend has made fun of me." He said, "By Allah, he has not done that." She turned away, saying. "The Quraysh will know that I am a chief's daughter." She recited in verse

مذمّما ابينه، و دينه قلينا، وأمره عصينا (نعوذ بالله)

We rejected Muzamam and despised his religion and disobeyed his command.[1]

This surah is evidence of the Prophet's mission. It is a clear miracle. The surah clearly says that both of them will go to Hell, but neither of them could even pretend that they were Muslims. The *Ulama* have stessed this point.

UMM JAMIL'S OPPOSITION

After the revelation of this surah, Abu Lahab and his wife prevailed upon their sons Utbah and Utaybah to divorce the Prophet's ﷺ daughters. While Utbah divorced Sayyidah Ruqayah رضى الله عنها , he did not cause any other trouble to the Prophet ﷺ, Utaybah, on the other hand, was married to Sayyidah Umm Kulthum رضى الله عنها but the marriage was not consumated till then. He met the Prophet ﷺ and abused and harassed him. He prayed against him, "O Allah, let one of your dogs subdue him." When Abu Lahab heard of this, he said to

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[1] Ibn Kathir has reported this event on the authority of Sayyidah Asma رضى الله عنها . Ibn Abu Hatim has also narrated it. We have reproduced it with a slight change. [We seek refuge in Allah form these words].

his son, "My son, I no more consider you safe."

Hibar ibn al-Aswad narrated: We wished to take up lodgings in the cathedral of a monk during our journey. But, he said to us, "Of Arabs, who brought you here? Lions roam about here like sheep. Abu Lahab said, "Because of my old age, it is my right to reside here." The monk said, "Yes, Abu Lahab, you can stay here." Abu Lahab said to us, "Muhammad has cursed my son. So, I fear for him. So, pile up your luggage one on the other and put my son's bedding on that. You sleep around him on the floor." We did as he said and let Utaybah sleep on the pile of our luggage. We slept around him. Abu Lahab also slept on the floor with us. A lion came in the night, smelled each of us. Not finding his game among us, he jumped over the pile and tore Utaybah to pieces, severing his head from the body. Utaybah's last words were, "I did say that Muhammad is the most truthful of all men." Thus, he died as the Prophet ﷺ had prayed that he should. Abu Lahab confessed, "I knew he could not avert Muhammad's curse." This event, too, is evidence of the Prophet's ﷺ true mission. But, Abu Lahab maintained his oposition and stubbornness. Rather, he was as arrogant as before, though might and power belongs to Allah alone.

Books of *sirah* tell us that Umm Jamil would lay down thorns in the night on the Prophet's ﷺ path. He would walk over them in the morning without showing displeasure. This disconcern made Umm Jamil more irritated.

She was rude and abusive. She would say to people, "Muhammad is a sorcerer." [We seek refuge in Allah.] She made her husband follow the Prophet ﷺ during days of Hajj and tell every visitor whom the Prophet ﷺ preached that he was a liar." [May Allah pretect us from such thought.]

According to Imam Bukhari, the Prophet ﷺ could not stand up for two or three nights because of his illness. She came near him and said, "O Muhammad, I hope that your devil has forsaken you. I do not see him near you." Allah revealed this verse:



By the morning brightness, by the night, when it is still, your Lord has not forsaken you, nor is He displeased. *(93:1-3)*

The exegettes say that Umm Jamil will fare in Hell as it is described in the Qur'ān. She will carry on her back wood of *zaqqum* and a chain of fire will be round her neck.

The exegettes say that the words فى جيدها حبل من مسد mean that a rope of fire will be tied round her neck in Hell. She will be raised at the edge of Hell and then thrown inside. This will be a continuous punishment on her. She will carry wood in Hell and throw at her husband.

HER FATE IN THE WORLD

She faced a similar punishment in this life too. She used to place pieces of wood and thorns in the Prophet's ﷺ path. One day, while she was doing that, she sat down awhile on a stone. An angel came and pulled the rope with which she carried wood (to place on the path) and she was starngled to death. Immediately she was flung in the sparkling Fire.

Allah says:

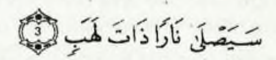


and his wife – the carrier of firewood; upon her neck a rope of palm fibres. *(111:4-5)*

The cruel and the disbelievers get this return for their deeds.

Abu Lahab died in Makkah after the Battle of Badr. Though he had not participated in this battle in person yet he was much grieved at the defeat and he died within seven days of the Battle. He died of a contagious disease of the skin. His sons left him unattended for many days after death. His body burst open and gave out a bad smell. People rebuked them for leaving their dead father unattended in the house which was stinking with odour. His sons were scared that the contagious

disease might effect them. When people rebuked them, they ordered one of their slaves, and all of them together threw water on him from a distance. They then tied him up and dragged him to a higher place in Makkah where they dug a pit and threw him into it. Then they filled it up with stones from a distance. This was his punishment in this world and he will face a degrading chastisement in the Hereafter.



{Soon he shall enter a flaming fire} *(111:3)*

Abu Lahab was seventy years old when he died.

In short, this woman too faced the same consequence as the women who disobeyed their hubands who were Prophets عليهم السلام . This woman not only abetted her husband in disbelief but also incited him against Islam. No one should disobey the Creator to obey the created. A husband should be obeyed only if it does no involve disobedience to Allah - and in such obedience lies salvation from the Fire.

SALUMI AND HIRODIYA[1]

- Two of the worst women in history who killed Sayyidina Yahha ibn Zakariya عليهما السلام.

THEIR PUNISHMENT

The punishment against causing hardship to a Prophet is consignment to Hell. Obviously, then, the punishment to one who kills a Prophet would be much more severe. Hirodiya and Salumi were respectively mother and daughter and the worst of women in history.

Sayyidina Eesa عليه السلام was born without a father and his maternal cousin Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام was also born about the same time. His father, Sayyidina Zakriya عليه السلام was very old and his mother was barren. This happened is Palestine during the reign of Ruman.

SAYYIDINA YAHYA عليه السلام

Let us first read about this Prophet عليه السلام. The Qur'an mentions that his father, Sayyidina Zakariya عليه السلام, did not give up hope for a son even in his old age. He observed that Sayyidah Maryam عليها السلام got 'out of season' fruit in Bayt ul-Maqdis. So, he prayed to Allah:

ذِكْرُ رَحْمَتِ رَبِّكَ عَبْدَهُۥ زَكَرِيَّآ ﴿٢﴾ إِذْ نَادَىٰ رَبَّهُۥ نِدَآءً خَفِيًّا ﴿٣﴾ قَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّى وَهَنَ ٱلْعَظْمُ مِنِّى وَٱشْتَعَلَ ٱلرَّأْسُ شَيْبًا وَلَمْ أَكُنۢ بِدُعَآئِكَ رَبِّ شَقِيًّا ﴿٤﴾ وَإِنِّى خِفْتُ ٱلْمَوَٰلِىَ مِن وَرَآءِى وَكَانَتِ ٱمْرَأَتِى عَاقِرًا فَهَبْ لِى مِن لَّدُنكَ وَلِيًّا ﴿٥﴾ يَرِثُنِى وَيَرِثُ مِنْ ءَالِ يَعْقُوبَ ۖ وَٱجْعَلْهُ رَبِّ رَضِيًّا ﴿٦﴾

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[1] Biblical names: Herodias (mother) and Salome (daughter).

(This is) a mention of your Lord's mercy to His servant Zakariya. (Recall) when he called upon his Lord, calling lowly. He said, "My Lord! My bones are weakened within me, and my head is listening with hoariness, and I have never been unblest in my prayer to You, My Lord! And I fear my kinsfolk after I am gone, and my wife is barren, so grant me from Yourself a heir, who shall inherit me and inherit the household of Ya'qub, and make him, my Lord, acceptable (to You)." *(19:2-6)*

Sayyidina Zakariya ﷺ wished to have offspring that his son may take over his prophethood. Allah acepted his prayer. When he was engaged in prayer one day, an angel brought to him glad tidings of a righteous son who will be a Prophet, named Yahya – no one had that name till then.

فَنَادَتْهُ ٱلْمَلَٰٓئِكَةُ وَهُوَ قَآئِمٌ يُصَلِّى فِى ٱلْمِحْرَابِ أَنَّ ٱللَّهَ يُبَشِّرُكَ بِيَحْيَىٰ مُصَدِّقًۢا بِكَلِمَةٍ مِّنَ ٱللَّهِ وَسَيِّدًا وَحَصُورًا وَنَبِيًّا مِّنَ ٱلصَّٰلِحِينَ ﴿٣٩﴾

So the angels called to him while he stood praying in the sanctuary, "Lo Allah gives you glad tidings of (a son whose name is) Yahya, confirming (Prophet Eesa) the word from Allah, and a leader and a chaste one, and a Prophet from among the righteous." *(3:39)*

He was taken unawares at the sudden glad tidings. He exclaimed that his wife was barren and he was old.

قَالَ رَبِّ أَنَّىٰ يَكُونُ لِى غُلَٰمٌ وَكَانَتِ ٱمْرَأَتِى عَاقِرًا وَقَدْ بَلَغْتُ مِنَ ٱلْكِبَرِ عِتِيًّا ﴿٨﴾

He said, "My Lord! How shall I have a son, while my wife is barren, and I have reached the extreme old age?" *(19:8)*

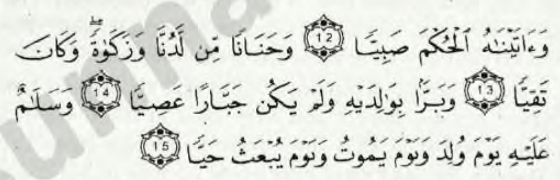
The angel told him:

قَالَ كَذَٰلِكَ قَالَ رَبُّكَ هُوَ عَلَىَّ هَيِّنٌ وَقَدْ خَلَقْتُكَ مِن قَبْلُ وَلَمْ تَكُ شَيْـًٔا ﴿٩﴾

He said, "So it shall be! Your Lord says, 'That is easy for me, and indeed I created you aforetime, when you were nothing." *(19:9)*

His wife became pregnant. Sayyidina Eesa ﷺ was also born during these days. Some say that the wife of Sayyidina Zakariya ﷺ and Sayyidah Maryam ﷺ became pregnant almost simultaneously.

Sayyidina Zakariya ﷺ taught and trained his son, Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ along religious lines. Allah had promised him that He would make his son a chief and a chaste and pious man.



And We gave him wisdom while yet a child, and tenderness from Us, and purity. And he was God-fearing; and dutiful to his parents, and he was not arrogant, rebellious. Peace be upon him, the day he was born and the day he dies, and the day he will be raised up alive. *(19:12-15)*

He was an adherent to Islamic way of life and commands from early youth. He would preach to the children of Isra'il and advise them to shun ostentation and association. Sayyidina Eesa ﷺ also began to preach about the same time, and he helped him in the task. In order to purify people from sin, he would give them a bath in the River Jordan. The Christian call it تعميد (baptism).

MURDER OF SAYYIDINA YAHYA & ZAKARIYA عليهما السلام

The Banu Isra'il were going through extreme mischief. The King Herod Antipas was madly in love with his sister-in-law (brother's wife) and they had illicit relationship. He wanted to marry her, but that was disallowed in their religion (as taught by Prophet Musa ﷺ). He sought a ruling in his favour from Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ, but he told him that she was not lawful to him. On hearing this, his beloved was enraged and thought

to herself that she would get rid of Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ. Salumi was a great dancer and very beautiful. Her mother conspired with her that she should dance before the king in near nudity and give him much wine to intoxicate him deeply. When he made advances, she should ask him for (Sayyidina) Yahya's ﷺ head. Salumi did as her mother said to her. While dancing, she stripped herself of her garments one by one, and made the king drink plenty of wine. When he sought to make love to her, she asked for Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ to be killed, and he gave orders accordingly. The Prophet's head was brought to the king in a golden tray. A miracle was displayed. The head spoke the same words, "She is not lawful for you!" The king and his courtiers were stupefied on hearing that.

When Sayyidina Zakariya learnt that his son was killed, he cursed his murderers and they died at the instant. When people learnt of that they seized revenge from Prophet Zakariya ﷺ and slew him while he was in his chambers. However, these events brought a spate of misfortunes on Banu Isra'il. Allah caused Bakht Nasr to oppress them. He played havoc with them and levelled down their city and temple and arrested every surviving one of them. Allah destroys the tyrants in this way.

Allamah Ibn Kathir has written in *al-Bidayahh wa an-Nihayah*: Many reasons are mentioned for killing Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ. The most well-known of them is that the king of Damascus wanted to marry a woman who was closely related to him which made her unlawful for him. Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ disallowed him to do that. Hence, the woman demanded from the king that the Prophet should be killed. When the head of Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ was brought in a tray, the woman looked at it and died at the very moment. Some others say that the Queen was in love with Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ and asked him to meet her but he declined. Disappointed, she had the king order his death. At first the king hesitated but then gave in. The Prophet was killed and his head was presented in a tray to the king.

Thawri reported on the authority of Thamar ibn Atiyah that as many as seventy Prophets عليهم السلام were martyred at

the rock of Bayt al Maqdis. Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام was one of them.

Sa'eed ibn Musayyid reported that when Bakht Nasr came to Damascus, the blood of Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام was bubbling. He made enquiries. Then he had seventy thousand men killed at the spot. It was then that the blood cooled down. This shows that he was killed in Damascus. Bakht Nasr came after Sayyidina Eesa عليه السلام. Ata and Hasan Busri concur with this account.

Ibn Asakir has reported from Zayd ibn Waqid, "When the foundation of the mosque of Damascus was being laid, I saw Prophet Yahya's عليه السلام head on the eastern corner towards the qiblah under a pillar. His skin and hair were intact." According to another version, "It looked as though he was mudered at that time." It is said that his head was buried under the pillar Sakasakah of the mosque of Damascus.

Ibn Asakir has mentioned the reason for killing Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام. He said: A prince had divorced his wife with three pronouncements, but wanted to take her back. He sought a ruling from Sayyidina Yahya عليه السلام, but he ruled that he cannot take her back unless she marries another man. This infuriated the woman and her mother advised her to ask the king to have him killed (He was killed and) his head was brought in a china tray. The head spoke out, "She is not lawful for you. She is not lawful... unless you marry her to another man." Allah caused the earth to swallow the woman, first her feet and then till her buttocks. When her mother saw her, she commanded a sword-bearer to kill her and he severed her head. There followed for the people a disgrace and they were eliminated.

His head continued to pour blood till Bakht Nasr had seventy-five thousand people killed at the blood. Then a Prophet of Banu Isra'il, Sayyidinah Armiya عليه السلام arrived and said "O Blood, you have eliminated Banu Isra'il. Stop by the command of Allah!" The blood ceased to flow. However, the very first account is more known.

the sack of Bait al-Maqdis, Nebuzaradan, saw a red sea; one of them.

It was the [illegible] recorded that when Nebuzaradan came to Damascus, the blood of Zechariah [illegible] was still bubbling. He made enquiries. Then he had seventy thousand men killed at the spot. It was then that the blood cooled down. This shows that he was killed in Damascus. [illegible] came with this account.

[illegible] has reported from Zaid [illegible] "When the foundation of the mosque at Damascus was being laid, [illegible] came [illegible] [illegible] the head [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] said [illegible] [illegible] in another [illegible] "It looked as though he was murdered at that time." It is said that the head was buried under the [illegible] of the mosque of Damascus.

[illegible] has mentioned the [illegible] "[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] another man. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ask the king to [illegible] [illegible] was called and his head was brought on a [illegible] her head. [illegible] [illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the blood. Then a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] command of Allah. The blood is said to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

CONCLUSION

O People, do not oppress women!

There is a sign for us in the lives of women who disbelieved and committed sin and opposed Allah and His Prophets عليهم السلام. Allah returned their evil deeds with punishment. They had neglected Allah and thought that they were fighting a battle with Him.

We have seen that Sayyidina Yahya ﷺ and Sayyidina Zakariya ﷺ were murdered only that their muderers may further their sensuous desires. They thought that they would live forever. They forgot Allah and He put them aside.

We learn that sin is cause of punishment. Disobedience to Allah is not merely disbelief but also violatoin of His command —not doing what He says and doing what He forbids.

O Muslim sister! When you know that somethnig is a means of Allah's displeassure then shun it. Do not go near it. And when you learn that something draws one near Allah, then make it a point to do it that will take you to Paradise.

This book is an invitaion to every woman who does not observe the veil. Allah says:

يَٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّبِيُّ قُل لِّأَزْوَٰجِكَ وَبَنَاتِكَ وَنِسَآءِ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يُدْنِينَ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِن جَلَٰبِيبِهِنَّ ذَٰلِكَ أَدْنَىٰٓ أَن يُعْرَفْنَ فَلَا يُؤْذَيْنَ

O Prophet! Tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the Believers the draw their outer garments close round them (when they go out on purpose). That would be more likely that they may be recognised and not annoyed. *(33:59)*

This book is also an invitaion to the women who let their grown up daughters move about unveiled on the plea that they are yet 'children', not yet married. Whether a grown-up girl is married or not, she has to obseve the veil, none of her body

may be visible except her face and her palms.[1] Mothers will surely be asked how they trained their daughters (and sons) because they are the first place of education.

Men also have a great hand in training daughters and sons. A girl can assure her father, husband and brother either Paradise or Hell. If they encourage her to obey Allah then they will go to Paradise but if they let her pursue her desires then she will take them to Hell even if they are constant at *salah*, fasting, hajj and righteous deeds.

O People! Do not commit opression by allowing women false liberty and equality that she may do what she likes. What kind of equality you want? Allah says:

ٱلرِّجَالُ قَوَّٰمُونَ عَلَى ٱلنِّسَآءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ ٱللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَىٰ بَعْضٍ وَبِمَآ أَنفَقُوا۟ مِنْ أَمْوَٰلِهِمْ

Men are the managers of the affairs of women because Allah has made the one to excel the other, and because of what they expend of their riches (for them). *(4:34)*

Also:

وَلَيْسَ ٱلذَّكَرُ كَٱلْأُنثَىٰ

And the male is not like the female. *(3:36)*

The Prophet ﷺ said, "O women, give charity, for, I have seen in Hell more women (than men)." They asked, "O Messenger of Allah, why is that so?" He said, "You have the habit to curse other people and to disobey your husband."[2]

In his final will the Prophet ﷺ left instructions for women that men should protect them and not leave them free to pursue their desires.

But, today's man is disobedient to the Prophet's will. He has given woman a free rein and she does what she likes in the name of 'female liberty' and equality. Thus, she is a partner of

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[1] The ulama have ruled that during fitnah (trial), woman should cover her face and hands too.

[2] Bukhari and Muslim

man in every worldly affair but not religion. There is in every home nudity, sin, indecency and 'sex-worship'. Great people like graduates advocate equal representation for women in assemblies.

O Muslim woman! Pay no need to these men. They will take you to Hell. Listen to the message in the Qur'ān that invites you to Paradise. Listen to it and conduct yourself according to it. Allah will grant you success.

وَقَرْنَ فِى بُيُوتِكُنَّ وَلَا تَبَرَّجْنَ تَبَرُّجَ ٱلْجَٰهِلِيَّةِ ٱلْأُولَىٰ ۖ وَأَقِمْنَ
ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَءَاتِينَ ٱلزَّكَوٰةَ وَأَطِعْنَ ٱللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُۥٓ ۚ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ
ٱللَّهُ لِيُذْهِبَ عَنكُمُ ٱلرِّجْسَ أَهْلَ ٱلْبَيْتِ وَيُطَهِّرَكُمْ
تَطْهِيرًا ﴿٣٣﴾ وَٱذْكُرْنَ مَا يُتْلَىٰ فِى بُيُوتِكُنَّ مِنْ
ءَايَٰتِ ٱللَّهِ وَٱلْحِكْمَةِ ۚ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ كَانَ لَطِيفًا خَبِيرًا ﴿٣٤﴾

And stay in your houses, and display not your adornment like the displaying of the (time of) former paganism; and establish *salah* and pay the *zakah*, and obey Allah and His Messenger. Allah only desires to take away from you all abomination, O people of the household (of Muhammad), and to purify you with a thorough purifying.
And remember that which is recited (by the Prophet in) your houses of the revelations of Allah and the Wisdom. Surley Allah is ever Subtile, Aware. *(33:33-34)*

These instructions are for the holy wives of the Prophet ﷺ and the believing women. The wives of the Prophet ﷺ are the most superior women of this *ummah*. Allah commands them that they must stay home. They were disallowed to go out of the house unnecessarily. They were told to observe the veil, keep up *salah*, pay *zakah* and obey Allah and His Messenger ﷺ. When they do that, Allah will purify them.

Every woman of this *ummah* is expected to follow these guidelines. Let no one imagine that these are orders exclusively for the Prophet's ﷺ wives. Rather, every command

in this verse applies to every Muslim woman – the veil, staying in the home, *salah*, *zakah*, righteous deeds, and so on. Every woman must observe them.

We pray to Allah to forgive us and to give us security. We pray to Him to guide us, to give us prosperity and to protect us from Hell.

We pray to Him to cause this our deed – and other deeds – to add to our good deeds in the scale on the day of Resurrection. Aameen!

و صل اللهم و سلم على سيدنا محمد و اله و صحبه و سلم

(And, O Allah, shower blessings and peace on Muhammad and on his family and companions!)

Mansur Abdul Hakim Muhammad
(al-Muhami)
Cairo: 12th Zul Hajjah 1420 AH
(20th March 2000)

ABOUT THE BOOK

Mansur Abdul Hakim has written this book with the intention of awakenig women to reality. They may be cautions and not misled by mischievous promises of a liberated life.

Examples of women who deserve to go to Hell are given. This portion tells them of the things and way of life they must avoid. Some outstanding pious women whose lives they may emulate are also mentioned.

There follows a description of Hell and its inmates. Perhaps in learning of this, we may fear our consequences and correct our lives.

Next there is glimpse of the lives of women who had an ideal opportunity to live with Prophets, but they lost it. Their objective was to portray their individual personality as distinct from their husband.

Umm Jamil and her husband Abu Lahab are next menioned. They did the most they could to make life difficult for the noble Prophet ﷺ but they had to pay dearly in this life and will face punishment in the next. A brief account of Prophet Yahya's عليه السلام life follows. The role of Salumi and Herodiya in his life is described. Daughter and mother - whose Biblical names are Selome and Herodias - were responsible for killing the Prophet عليه السلام.

The book winds up with a conclusion and sound advice for women.

Among other books by the author is one about women who are given tidings of Paradise.

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WOMEN WHO DESERVE TO GO TO HELL

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